GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)
General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

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A SKETCH MAP OF THE WEST COAST OF MEXICO AND THE PENINSULA OF LOWER CALIFORNIA (See Bulletin No. 4)

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How U-Boats Were Trapped by Mines

"STICK to your job and go up with it."

This was the slogan adopted by the "Suicide Squadron," which planted the mines for the North Sea barrage that snared the deadly U-boats in their dens and helped win the war. The return of this famous squadron to New York this month, after taking up the mines, was the occasion for an official welcome.

Capt. Reginald R. Belknap, U. S. N., who was in charge of the mine-laying operations, described what has been called one of the most daring and formidable tasks of the war, in an article in The National Geographic Magazine, as follows:

"Savage beasts are trapped most easily near their dens. Any barriers, however, that the Allied navies could place near the German coast and near the Skagerrack were so close to the German bases that the enemy could at any time break through at some point by suddenly attacking there with more force than the Allies could maintain over any one section of the whole line, so far away from the bases of Great Britain.

"The plan was to plant a mine field across the North Sea, from Scotland to Norway, a distance of 230 miles, or as far as from Boston to New York. It was a bold scheme; some said foolish, impossible. From the outset the operation was seen to be of great magnitude, with a mass of detail requiring constant foresight and careful adjustment. Besides the bigness, other features promised great difficulty, such as deep water, danger to the mine-layers from their own mine fields in bad weather and fog, and inexperience of the large proportion of new personnel.

"Preparedness" Key to Success

"Fortunately our Navy had been developing a mining force for nearly three years. As if in anticipation of this very war operation, we had planted a three-line mine field just below Sandy Hook one fine day in December, 1916—200 loaded mines. We did not tell the press about it, as it might have caused anxiety, and we took them all up next day.

"Ralph C. Browne, of Salem, Mass., had submitted a design for a submarine gun which was adjudged impracticable, but one element of the gun was seen to have great possibilities if adapted to a mine against submarines.

"The new invention had to be put through severe trials before we could feel sure enough; but by the end of October, 1917, the definite order was given to go ahead. Over 500 contractors and subcontractors were soon engaged in the manufacture of the many parts, small and large, that go into the make-up of a complete mine.

"Besides being a rush order all through, the task was complicated by the necessity for keeping parts of the mine secret. Some pieces had to be made here and others there and both kinds sent to a third place to be joined, and all of the parts were finally delivered at Norfolk, Va., for shipment to Scotland, where the complete mines were to be assembled and adjusted, ready to plant.

"A submarine mine of today consists of a mine case, shaped like a ball or egg, about one yard in diameter, and an anchor in the form of an iron box about two feet square, connected by a wire rope mooring cable the size of one's little finger. The mine case contains the charge of high explosive—300 pounds of TNT in our mines—and the firing mechanism.

Deadly Instrument Weighs More Than Half a Ton

"When assembled, the mine case is mounted on the anchor, the combination standing about five feet high and weighing 1,400 pounds. The anchor has four small wheels, like car wheels, and thus the mines may be easily moved along the decks to the launching point.

"To receive the large amount of mine material and general supplies that soon began to collect, a large steamship pier was taken over at Norfolk, to serve as a storage as well as loading point.

"Near by a plant was constructed for charging the mine spheres with explosive—great steam kettles for melting the TNT, which was poured into the spheres.

"There was a great transportation problem involved, originally estimated to absorb the use of 60,000 tons of shipping for five months. Beginning their sailing in late February, a group of 24 steamers, managed by the Naval Overseas Transport Service, were constantly employed, with two or three departures every eight days, carrying mine material and stores for the northern barrage.

"Meantime the British naval authorities were preparing depots for us in Scotland. When finished these bases could together prepare 1,000 mines a day."

Actual laying of the mines, a task involving great danger, skill, and ingenuity, will be described in a second bulletin by Captain Belknap.

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Omsk: The Chicago of Siberia

OMSK, for a time seat of the government headed by Admiral Kolchak, was shelled and partly burned recently by the Bolsheviki, according to news dispatches.

Located on the Irtish River, longer than the better-known Volga and approximately as long as the Mississippi, Omsk, once the seat of government of the Steppes region of west Siberia, under the monarchy was the cross-roads of the routes to central Russia, Orenburg, and Turkestan.

It lies along the trans-Siberian Railway, running from Moscow to Vladivostok, a 5,385-mile journey, taking ten days, formerly made in a luxurious express train equipped with bath-rooms, dispensary, and library.

Amid the ruins of an old fort, behind the museum of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society, stood, until a few years ago, the house in which the famous Russian novelist, Feodor Dostoievsky, spent his four years of imprisonment ten years before our Civil War.

Home of the Russian Dickens

Here Dostoievsky wrote his Siberian novel, "Recollections of a Dead House," translated into English under the title "Buried Alive in Siberia," which is the "Little Dorrit" of the Siberian exiles. Indeed, his subjects and characters have been compared to those of Dickens, though his treatment is far more grim. Out of his experience with criminals while at Omsk also came his "Crime and Punishment," in which, with semi-prophetic vision, he pictured a future Russian people freed from bonds of force, but united by ties of mutual trust and kindness.

In the principal square of Omsk stands the Church of St. Nicholas, in which hangs a banner reputed to have been that of Yermak, a Cossack bandit of the Volga, who turned over the vast domain of Siberia to Ivan the Terrible, with the result that Yermak procured his own restoration to Moscow court favor.

Thus that tyrannical and talented Tsar came into possession of the extensive territory which had been wrested from the Mongolians by Russians who had fled from the mad vagaries of Ivan. This same Ivan, it will be recalled, threw his regents to the dogs, dared to proclaim himself Tsar, though his father had not; then summoned the first Russian national assembly, killed his son in a fit of anger, and took the hood of the strictest monastic order just before the end of a dissolute personal and brilliant political life.

Many Refugees Gathered There

Founded only about 200 years ago, Omsk nominally is a city approximately the size of Birmingham, Ala., or Paterson, N. J. Recently refugees have largely increased its population. Its nearest neighbor along the Irtish is Tara, an older city, where Peter the Great ordered 700 citizens butchered because they declined to take an oath of allegiance.

The Omsk museum was a principal point of interest for tourists because of its collection of ethnological relics of the steppes, or barren plains of western Siberia, which includes many prehistoric specimens.

Long a Cossack center, the Siberian Cossacks found Omsk a convenient rallying place to resist the Bolshevik influences, which appealed strongly to a foreign or mixed element in Russia that has no counterpart in Siberia. Descendants of many of the colonists sent to Siberia by the government, and also of many political exiles, are of good Russian stock.

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Gloucester: Mother of American Fisheries

AS UNCLE SAM'S merchant marine expands, many an historic port where ships from every clime once rode at anchor is likely to be restored to its one-time maritime glory. Gloucester, Massachusetts, is an example.

Almost as conspicuous as Cape Cod, the gaunt, half-clenched fist to the south, is the knob protruding from the northeast corner of Massachusetts, known as Cape Ann, where Gloucester grew. Though the latter furnished a bleaker and more barren haven for adventurous explorers, a temporary settlement was made there only three years after the *Mayflower* arrived at Plymouth.

Some evidence indicates that Thorwald's "Cape of the Cross," which he thought to be a projection of Greenland, was the bleak Cape Ann. Gosnold, Pring, and Weymouth, to mention only a few, voyaged about the region, and Capt. John Smith explored the coast within two decades before the Pilgrims came. Smith landed on what now is Cape Ann and called it Tragabigzanda in honor of a Turkish Pocahontas who did not risk her head, but who fed him while he was a prisoner.

Whether the dozen or so sailors dropped off at Cape Ann in 1623 by an English fishing vessel all moved on later to Salem or whether a few remained is in dispute. Within fifteen years Gloucester's authenticated history begins. In 1642 a township was formed, which in 1675 raised by draft its quota for the Indian war. In 1688 six acres of land were allotted to every able-bodied native male, and in that same year the sturdy pioneers declined to pay certain taxes levied by the royal governor, Sir Edwin Andros.

They Came to Fish and Stayed to Plant

Though reports like that of Capt. John Smith, of "angling with a hook and crossing the sweet air from isle to isle," attracted many English fishing vessels, early settlers seem to have sought subsistence largely from the barren soil. Not until about 1700 was Gloucester identified particularly with fishing. From that time the story of Gloucester's fisher folk would fill books—and has, in fact—such books as those of James B. Connolly, Mrs. Ward's "Old Maid's Paradise," and Kipling's "Captains Courageous."

Farther and farther asea went the doughty fisherman, discovering the Cape Sable grounds, off Nova Scotia; the Grand Bank, off Newfoundland; and the St. George's Bank, 120 miles to the southeast of the headland. It was off the St. George's Banks that the "big storm" of 1862 carried 13 schooners and 168 men to the bottom.

Epic of numerous deep-sea tragedies of this sort is Longfellow's "Wreck of the Hesperus," of which Norman's Woe, off Gloucester, is the scene, though that particular story is only traditional. Thacher's Woe marks the wreck of a vessel from Ipswich bound for Marblehead, carrying a clergyman and his six children, a son-in-law and his four children. When the vessel was battered to pieces on a rock the only survivors were this son-in-law, Anthony Thacher, and his wife.

The fishing banks lie between the Atlantic shores and the Gulf Stream. The theory of their formation is that ice masses float southward until they encounter the stream's warm currents. As they melt, the earth and sand they carry is deposited to form the banks and hollows where fish are spawned.

Schooners Originated and Named There

Schooners are said to have originated in Gloucester and to have been so named by a Gloucester shipwright who when he launched a vessel heard a spectator exclaim, "Oh, how she scoons." That expression was used to describe the bounding of a pebble thrown sidewise into the water.

Many facts about Gloucester, as of other early New England communities, are derived from such naïve verses as those left by Thomas Fuller, an early settler, who wrote:

"In thirty-eight I set my foot
Upon New England's shore;
My thoughts were then to stay one year,
And here to stay no more."

Tax records, too, have their historic sidelights, especially biographical, such as the lists of exemptions with items like these:

"Capt. Haskell hath been sick almost this half-year and still remains.
"Richard Dike being distempered in ye head.
"Mr. Henry Walker, very aged; not able to do nothing.
"Thomas Riggs, Senior, is decrepit in his lims."

Gloucester has among its rocky cliffs and ledges one floral curiosity of great beauty and fragrance, the magnolia glaucus, which grows in the swamps near the city.

Rafe's Chasm, where the pounding waves churn and rumble; the Rocking Stone, oscillated for an inch or so by the incoming tides; "Old Mother Ann" and "Whale's Jaw" are among the natural wonders Gloucester discloses.

The Massachusetts State census of 1915 gave Gloucester a population of 24,478. Before the war most adult males, numbering about 6,000, were engaged in fishing or collateral occupations.

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United States Twice Held a Part of Mexico

RECENT suggestions that Lower California be bought by the United States from Mexico prompted the National Geographic Society to issue a bulletin concerning an area which is described by one senatorial advocate of such purchase as "the vermiform appendix of Mexico and the Achilles' heel of the United States."

"It may be unknown to many that the United States or its citizens have twice had complete possession of Lower California," says a communication to The Society by E. W. Nelson.

"During the Mexican War, in 1847, the forces of the United States occupied the principal points in the peninsula and declared it American territory, but relinquished it at the close of hostilities. In 1853-54 it was again captured and a government temporarily organized by bands of American filibusters under Walker. This ill-advised venture lacked support and quickly came to a disastrous end.

"Lower California is the long, narrow peninsula that projects about 800 miles southeasterly from the southern border of California. Its width varies from about 30 to over 100 miles, and its irregular coast-line, over 2,000 miles long, is bordered by numerous islands. Being mainly a mountainous, desert region, it is thinly peopled and presents many sharply contrasting conditions. Low, sun-scorched plains, where death by thirst awaits the unwary traveler, lie close to the bases of towering granite peaks, belted with waving pine forests and capped in winter by gleaming snow.

Recall Scenes of "Arabian Nights"

"Vast desolate plateaus of ragged black lava embosom gem-like valleys, where verdure-bordered streams and the spreading fronds of date palms recall the mysterious hidden vales of the 'Arabian Nights.' The western coast is bathed by cool waters and abundant fogs, while the eastern shore is laved by the waves of a warm inland sea, sparkling under almost continuous sunshine.

"Although adjoining some of our best-known territory and with a recorded history which goes back almost four centuries and teems with varied events, the peninsula still remains one of the least-known parts of North America. The early chronicles tell of its discovery in 1533 by an expedition sent out by Cortes in search of a fabulously rich island said to have been inhabited by Amazons.

"It has been estimated that at the time of its discovery the peninsula, including many of the bordering islands, was peopled by about 25,000 Indians. The inhabitants vigorously resented the intrusion of newcomers, and for more than a century efforts to establish military colonies in the new land resulted in disastrous failures.

"During one period in its history the southern shores of the peninsula served as the lurking place of Sir Francis Drake and other freebooters lying in wait for the treasure-laden Spanish galleons on their annual voyages from Manila to Mexico.

"Afterward, during the first two-thirds of the last century, those shores were visited by numerous half-pirate smugglers and by fleets of whalers and sealers, drawn there by the swarming abundance of whales, fur-seal, sea-elephants, and sea-otter. So ruthless was the pursuit of these animals that in a few decades they were on the verge of extermination, and the business ended, apparently forever.

"During the last half century all parts of the peninsula have been visited, mainly by Americans, in search of mines and other natural resources, but little of the knowledge thus gained has become available to the public. Gold, silver, copper, iron, and other minerals and much fertile land have been found, but the scarcity of water, fuel, forage, and the difficulties of transportation have united with other causes to bring about many failures in the attempts to develop these resources.

Richest Flora in the World

"The isolation of the desert-lowlands of Lower California, combined with alternations of long-continued droughts and heavy rains, has resulted in the development of the richest and most extraordinary desert flora in the world.

"One morning, in front of Magdalena Bay, I rode out from a dense growth of bushes into an open area and pulled up my horse in amazement at sight of the most extraordinary of them all. Before me was a great bed of creeping devil cactus, which appeared like a swarm of gigantic caterpillars creeping in all directions. These plants actually travel away from the common center of the group, and I saw many single sections 20 to 30 yards away from the others. The part of the stem resting on the ground sends down rootlets and the older stems die in the rear at about the same rate as they grow in front; so they slowly move away from the colony across the flats where they live.

"A large number of the smaller kinds of desert mammals never drink water. They live and thrive on dry seeds and scraps of vegetation, in places where the heat and aridity are excessive, without ever touching their lips to water, and it has even been found impossible to teach some of them to take water in captivity. Apparently they never know thirst or the delight of quenching it."

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Bessarabia: A Coney Island of History

COULD Bessarabia have been a racial catch-basin and retained progeny of all the tribes, peoples, and nationalities that have conquered or overrun her, she would be an ethnological museum of unparalleled variety. Her composite population again is making her an international bone of contention, this time between Rumania and the Ukraine.

Her population was more than 2,000,000 before the war, and included Moldavians, Little Russians, Jews, Bulgarians, Greeks, Armenians, Tatars, Germans, and Gypsies; but that list is short compared with the encylopedic procession of Getæ, Goths, Avars, Huns, Bessi (whence her name), Ugrians, Kumans, and Mongols, to mention but a few, since the days of the original Cimmerians.

For Bessarabia, sloping southward from the westward foothills of the Carpathians, between the Dniester and Pruth, down to the Black Sea and Danube delta, lay in the normal geographical pathway of tribes pushing westward from Asia and southward from the bleak Russian steppes toward the warmer seacoast lands. Moreover, Bessarabia is at the convergence of these two history-beaten paths, and many times a clash ensued to decide which group should pass through the "neck of the bottle" toward Europe's lands of milk and honey.

None Remained to Weep for Dead

Among the most harrowing of the invasions was that of the Mongols in the fourteenth century. They came across the Volga under Batu, grandson of that Mongol Charlemagne, Jenghiz Khan, and though there is no complete story of their depredations in Bessarabia, that region probably suffered actrocities similar to others which are recorded in harrowing detail. At Ryazan women and children were used as targets in bow-and-arrow contests; slivers of wood were driven under the nails of the men; then they were corralled in churches to watch their women being tortured, and finally roasted alive; and this went on until it is said that "no eye remained open to weep for the dead." Another city, Kozelsk, was renamed Mobalig, "City of Woe," and Kiev was laid waste after her people had been maimed and murdered.

A picture of peaceful, pastoral Bessarabia prior to the renewed ravages of the World War furnishes a pleasing contrast. A delight to the few tourists who went through the region were the Moldavian homes.

A Moldavian interior was immaculate and vivid. Brightly colored curtains and hangings were used. An inevitable decoration were rows of yellow gourds, the raising of which is one of the minor Bessarabian industries. The people are deeply religious. Each orthodox home had its altar, facing eastward, sacred bread beneath the icon, and cornstalks placed in the shape of a cross before it. Even the altars were colorful because of their draperies and candles, and many times they were laden with flowers. The Bessarabian women are sprightly, bright-eyed, and pretty.

Freakish Forms of Worship Abounded

To a land where curious religions abounded, Bessarabia furnished its quota of freakish sects. The Flagellants, self-styled "People of God," Jumpers, and White Doves did not prevail in Bessarabia, but the Mutes originated there. The followers of this belief kept vows of silence, while the "Non-Prayers" took literally the statement that God is to be worshipped in spirit, and therefore they did away with candles, imagery, and vocal petitions.

Moldavians constituted about half the inhabitants of Bessarabia. Rumania, it will be recalled, was formed by the union of Moldavia and Wallachia; hence the adjoining Bessarabia, with its large Moldavian population, long has been the "Irredenta" of Rumania.

Kishinev, capital of Bessarabia, was the scene of the atrocious Jewish massacres of Easter Sunday, 1903, when nearly 50 Jews were killed, about 600 wounded, and 700 homes destroyed. Reni is a small port on the Danube River, where Prince Alexander, of Bulgaria, was taken after the Russians had instigated a plot to have him kidnapped, in 1886.

Ismail, too, has a story, told in Byron's "Don Juan," the story of its siege by Souvarov,

> "the greatest chief
> That ever peopled hell with heroes slain,
> Or plunged a province or a realm in grief."

Kilia is another river port, but its growth was checked when the commission which improved the Danube delta deepened the Sulina instead of the Kilia channel.

Bessarabia as a Russian province, before the war, had an area about equal to that of Massachusetts and New Hampshire combined and a population comparable to Indiana.

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The Makers of the Flag

By FRANKLIN K. LANE, Secretary of the Interior

THIS morning, as I passed into the Land Office, The Flag dropped me a most cordial salutation, and from its rippling folds I heard it say: "Good morning, Mr. Flag Maker."

I was about to pass on, when The Flag stopped me with these words:

"Yesterday the President spoke a word that made happier the future of ten million peons in Mexico; but that act looms no larger on the flag than the struggle which the boy in Georgia is making to win the Corn Club prize this summer.

"Yesterday the Congress spoke a word which will open the door of Alaska; but a mother in Michigan worked from sunrise until far into the night to give her boy an education. She, too, is making the flag.

"Yesterday we made a new law to prevent financial panics, and yesterday, maybe, a school teacher in Ohio taught his first letters to a boy who will one day write a song that will give cheer to the millions of our race. We are all making the flag."

"But," I said impatiently, "these people were only working!"

Then came a great shout from The Flag:

"The work that we do is the making of the flag.

"I am not the flag; not at all. I am but its shadow.

"I am whatever you make me; nothing more.

"I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what a people may become.

"I live a changing life, a life of moods and passions, of heartbreaks and tired muscles.

"Sometimes I am strong with pride, when men do an honest work, fitting the rails together truly.

"Sometimes I droop, for then purpose has gone from me, and cynically I play the coward.

"Sometimes I am loud, garish, and full of that ego that blasts judgment.

"But always I am all that you hope to be and have the courage to try for.

"I am song and fear, struggle and panic, and ennobling hope.

"I am the day's work of the weakest man and the largest dream of the most daring.

"I am the Constitution and the courts, statutes and the statute-makers, soldier and dreadnaught, drayman and street sweep, cook, counselor, and clerk.

"I am the battle of yesterday and the mistake of tomorrow.

"I am the mystery of the men who do without knowing why.

"I am the clutch of an idea and the reasoned purpose of resolution.

"I am no more than what you believe me to be and I am all that you believe I can be.

"I am what you make me; nothing more.

"I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself, the pictured suggestion of that big thing which makes this nation. My stars and my stripes are your dream and your labors. They are bright with cheer, brilliant with courage, firm with faith, because you have made them so out of your hearts; for you are the makers of the flag, and it is well that you glory in the making."

(From an address delivered in 1914 before employes of the Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. See Bulletin No. 2.)

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The "Melting Pot" in Mexico

WHAT manner of folk are the Mexicans?

Whatever one's views on the wisest political course toward Mexico, it will help in a thorough understanding of that country to examine the rich history, the ancient civilization, the prehistoric remains, to be found among our southern neighbors.

Of the sixteen million inhabitants, two-fifths claim direct descent from ancient tribes or families which are accepted as the basis of Mexican history, two-fifths are of mixed native and foreign blood, the remainder being classed under the common appellation of "foreign."

Throughout much of the country, and often within short distances of railroads, are remnants of some of the ancient native tribes or races, adhering to customs, methods, and speech of their ancestors.

Thus in Oaxaca are the Zapotecas and Mixtecas, the estimate for the two races being a half million, and a government publication mentions a dozen other families in the same State.

In Hidalgo and adjacent States, the Otomis; in Puebla and Oaxaca, the Mexicanos; the predominating Mayas in Yucatan; in Michoacan and Jalisco, the Tarascans, and the Tlaxcalans, in their native State, and other groups elsewhere, still maintain the tribal individualities.

Country Is Hodge-podge of Languages

Although Spanish is the language of the country and much English is spoken in the regions most visited, a large number of the natives use only the vernacular.

Prescott refers to the Aztecs, Tlaxcalans, and others as producers of delicate fabrics, colored by vegetable dyes; intricate designs in the precious metals, and beautiful decorations made of feathers; numerous ruins also indicate marvelous skill of ancient peoples in stone-work, especially as the tools used were obsidian or copper.

Evidences that this deftness in handiwork has been retained appears in the feather-work, wood-carving, stone-cutting, etc., of the present day. The beautiful pottery and unique weaves of serapes, made with the crudest appliances, and excellent fabrications in cast or wrought iron, filigree silver, etc., also bear testimony to the skill of the Mexican Indian.

Mexico may be described as a land of surprises, a country of extremes, a nation of contrasts, a domain of apparent contradictions; where the old and the new, the poor and the rich, the crude and the refined, are near neighbors; where the sleep of centuries often continues adjacent to present activities, and where ultra conservatism is elbowed by pronounced evidences of modern progress.

Did the Ancients Know the "New World"?

Mexico has a wealth of archeological relics, remnants of an ancient civilization of which no well-defined trace exists. Volumes have been written to demonstrate that the builders of what are now ruins were of Mongolian, Semitic, or Phœnician origin, but the riddle cannot be admitted as solved. All authorities, however, unite in praise of the magnitude and the perfection of workmanship shown at various ruins found throughout the Mexican territory. The region adjacent to some of these raises question as to the source of sustenance for multitudes which must have then existed, and causes speculation upon changes which may have occurred in the interval.

Prominent among these ruins are Uxmal and Chichen-Itza, in the State of Yucatan; Palenque, in the State of Chiapas; Mitla, in the State of Oaxaca, and Xochicalco, in the State of Morelos.

The pyramid of Cholula, in Puebla, and those of the Sun and Moon, in the State of Mexico, have also been liberally described, but distributed over wide areas are many other ruins which have had but little or no investigation, and rock sculptures, images, idols, and ancient pottery, found in numerous localities, are the only records of peoples whose history is unknown and whose names even are lost.

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Etiquette of the American Flag

CESSATION of war has not meant the furling of flags. Instead they are in constant evidence, and the proper manner of their display constantly arises, especially on parade days and at patriotic exercises.

While there is no federal law pertaining to the manner of displaying the flag, there are many regulations and usages of national force bearing on the subject. This bulletin quotes from an article in the flag number of the National Geographic Magazine, by Commander Byron McCandless, U. S. N., and Gilbert Grosvenor, as follows:

"In raising the flag it should never be rolled up and hoisted to the top of the staff before unfurling. Instead, the fly should be free during the act of hoisting, which should be done quickly. It should be taken in slowly and with dignity. It should not be allowed to touch the ground on shore, or the deck of a ship, nor should it be permitted to trail in the water or in the dust. It should not be hung where it can be contaminated or soiled easily, or draped over chairs or benches for seating purposes, and no object or emblem of any kind should be placed upon it or above it.

Flag Should Not Be Draped Over Table

"A common but regrettable practice at public meetings is to drape the flag like a tablecloth over the speaker's table and then to place on the flag a pitcher of ice water, flowers, books, etc. Another equally careless practice, and, unfortunately, quite common, is to tie small United States flags to the bottom of a stage curtain. When the curtain is raised the flags are lifted aloft and are effectively displayed, but when the curtain is lowered, so that the stage scenes may be shifted, the flags trail in the dust of the stage floor.

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Bulletin No. 2, December 1, 1919.

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Yap, or Uap, when translated means *the* land, and is the only land that many of the islanders know, although many a native from this island has been driven hundreds of miles away from his home and returned without chart or compass among islands where he could not speak a word of the language used. Yap is surrounded by an atoll, but is itself of volcanic origin. The only good harbor is Tomil Bay.

Married and unmarried men alike belong to the club, which maintains a fine *failu,* or bachelor house, the hostess, or *mispil,* of which must be secured by force or cunning from some distant tribe.

The chief decoration of the male is a string of pink shells made into a necklace, and since no man is rich enough to own such a treasure, the best ones are loaned out for such a period as the wearer may choose to be dressed in the height of fashion. As there are no buttonholes, the man may wear two bouquets in each ear—a sort of corsage bunch in a large hole in the lower lobe and a small boutonnière in a smaller hole higher up in the ear. Shell cuffs made of conchs add the finishing touch to the correct attire.

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"The triumph of Perry upon which his fame chiefly rests was the opening of Japan to the world, one of the most important events in our history. The story of Perry's voyage to Japan has all the glamour of the stories of the Orient, and is fascinating beyond the imagination of the most fertile novelist. Armed with a letter from the President of the United States to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, saluted as a 'Great and Good Friend,' Commodore Perry made a thorough study of Japan and the Japanese character before starting on his epoch-making voyage.

"He carried as presents specimens of the products of the farm and factory, which he thought by their novelty and usefulness would interest the people of Japan. A miniature locomotive, with tracks and rails to be laid down, one mile of telegraph line with Morse instruments, photo-cameras, printing presses, puzzles and toys, some of the newest things in America, were in the cargo.

"The story of his wisdom, his patience, his consummate diplomacy, going into weeks and months and years, the employment of every art that statesmanship and strategy could invent, is as thrilling today as when it was first told. He had gone to Japan with a friendly key to open the door for the furtherance of trade, the protection of life, and to obtain a treaty with a power destined to occupy a large place in the world. Hurrying nothing, observing every ceremony that could appeal to those he would win as friends, Perry's success marked him as a diplomat of the first water.

Declined to Exclude Women

"When the negotiations had reached a stage where the high contracting parties had about agreed, Hayashi wished to insert a clause that no American woman should be brought to Japan. Tradition has it that when this proposition was submitted the Commodore excitedly exclaimed, 'Great Heavens! If I were to permit any such stipulation as that in the treaty, when I got home the women would pull all the hair out of my head!' And that was half a century and more before those wonderful evangelists, Anna Howard Shaw and Carrie Chapman Catt, taught us to believe in woman suffrage as a new creed in geographical and political expansion.

"Overlooking the harbor of Nippon stands a monument to Commodore Perry, commemorating the sailor-diplomat whose wisdom made Japan and America know and esteem each other. The friendship between these two nations has been cemented in the present-day partnership in the war for the triumph of free nations, in which they are allies. The spirit of Perry and Hayashi still pervades both countries, which, in the language of the letter borne by Perry, 'Live in friendship and commercial intercourse with each other.'"

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Prince of Wales: His Title and His Motto

IN CONNECTION with the visit to America of the Prince of Wales it is worth while to know how the British Crown Prince acquired that title, and also the origin of his famous insignia, three ostrich plumes and the motto, "Ich dien" (I serve).

The story of the title borne by the heirs to the British throne dates back to the days of Llewelyn, the last of the Welsh princes, when that country still had a quasi-independent status.

In Welsh legend, song, and story, Llewelyn is a veritable King Arthur, and his brother, David, was the traitorous Modred of his court. Since Henry III, of England, had invested his heir, afterward Edward I, with all the English royal claims in Wales, it might have been supposed that Llewelyn would try to placate the young prince. The battle of Evesham, fought while Henry III was yet living, had resulted in many concessions to Llewelyn.

But Llewelyn incurred the displeasure of Edward by casting his lot with the famous Montfort family, and perpetrated what was considered a direct affront when he announced his bethrothal to Eleanor de Montfort. Moreover, he declined to attend the coronation of Edward.

Within two years after that coronation—just 500 years before the American Declaration of Independence was signed—Edward concluded a vigorous campaign in Wales with the Treaty of Conway, by which Llewelyn had to sign away most of the privileges he had won a decade earlier.

When Edward Conquered Wales

For five years Wales was quiet. Then David, who had aided the English king against his brother, headed a revolt against English rule, set a torch to Hawarden Castle, and precipitated a war in which Llewelyn was killed, and Edward was conqueror of Wales.

There was an ancient prophecy that the Prince of Wales some day would be crowned in London. In mockery of that, it is believed, Edward had Llewelyn's head cut off and brought to London, wreathed in ivy, to show the people.

While Edward was making sure of his subjugation of Wales by building a string of castles, Queen Eleanor joined him, and in the newly completed Carnarvon a son was born, who became the first English Prince of Wales, and later was King Edward II. According to a popular story, the conqueror exercised his grim humor by promising the Welsh a prince who could speak no English, construed to mean a native son, until Edward announced, upon the birth of his son, that the infant was the Prince of Wales in question.

Whether that story be true or not, the heir apparently was not formally invested with the title until he was seventeen years old. Ever since then the heir to the British throne has been known as the Prince of Wales, though usually he has been invested with the title and not so endowed upon birth.

No less romantic is the story of the insignia and motto of the Prince of Wales. Here again historians do not fully credit the generally accepted story. Certain it is that another Edward, known as "the Black Prince" because of the armor he wore, adopted the feathers and the pledge.

Blinded, He Went Into Battle on Horseback

The point of doubt is whether he actually did stumble over the body of the valiant John the Blind, of Bohemia, after the battle of Crecy, and was so struck with admiration of the sightless warrior, who had his charger attached to horses of his companions so he might not fail in loyalty to his ally, Philip of France, that Edward plucked the insignia from his enemy's uniform and swore to wear it forever after.

At least Edward's own bravery on that occasion and his chivalry upon many others make it entirely plausible that he should acknowledge the valor of an enemy. It was the first battle of magnitude in which the young prince had engaged, and his father, Edward III, watched from the crest of a hill, holding reinforcements in leash while his son fought against great odds. King Edward explained that he wanted his son to win his spurs in battle, nor did he wish to deprive him of credit for the victory.

The victory was most decisive, though one may discount somewhat the chroniclers who reported that the King of France fled at nightfall with only five knights and sixty soldiers, leaving more than 40,000 dead and dying men on the field.

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General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

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2. Etiquette of the American Flag.
3. The Island of Yap.
4. When Perry Went to Japan.
5. Prince of Wales: His Title and His Motto.

The Makers of the Flag

By FRANKLIN K. LANE, Secretary of the Interior

THIS morning, as I passed into the Land Office, The Flag dropped me a most cordial salutation, and from its rippling folds I heard it say: "Good morning, Mr. Flag Maker."

I was about to pass on, when The Flag stopped me with these words:

"Yesterday the President spoke a word that made happier the future of ten million peons in Mexico; but that act looms no larger on the flag than the struggle which the boy in Georgia is making to win the Corn Club prize this summer.

"Yesterday the Congress spoke a word which will open the door of Alaska; but a mother in Michigan worked from sunrise until far into the night to give her boy an education. She, too, is making the flag.

"Yesterday we made a new law to prevent financial panics, and yesterday, maybe, a school teacher in Ohio taught his first letters to a boy who will one day write a song that will give cheer to the millions of our race. We are all making the flag."

"But," I said impatiently, "these people were only working!"

Then came a great shout from The Flag:

"The work that we do is the making of the flag.

"I am not the flag; not at all. I am but its shadow.

"I am whatever you make me; nothing more.

"I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what a people may become.

"I live a changing life, a life of moods and passions, of heartbreaks and tired muscles.

"Sometimes I am strong with pride, when men do an honest work, fitting the rails together truly.

"Sometimes I droop, for then purpose has gone from me, and cynically I play the coward.

"Sometimes I am loud, garish, and full of that ego that blasts judgment.

"But always I am all that you hope to be and have the courage to try for.

"I am song and fear, struggle and panic, and ennobling hope.

"I am the day's work of the weakest man and the largest dream of the most daring.

"I am the Constitution and the courts, statutes and the statute-makers, soldier and dreadnaught, drayman and street sweep, cook, counselor, and clerk.

"I am the battle of yesterday and the mistake of tomorrow.

"I am the mystery of the men who do without knowing why.

"I am the clutch of an idea and the reasoned purpose of resolution.

"I am no more than what you believe me to be and I am all that you believe I can be.

"I am what you make me; nothing more.

"I swing before your eyes as a bright gleam of color, a symbol of yourself, the pictured suggestion of that big thing which makes this nation. My stars and my stripes are your dream and your labors. They are bright with cheer, brilliant with courage, firm with faith, because you have made them so out of your hearts; for you are the makers of the flag, and it is well that you glory in the making."

(From an address delivered in 1914 before employes of the Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C. See Bulletin No. 2.)

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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The "Melting Pot" in Mexico

WHAT manner of folk are the Mexicans?

Whatever one's views on the wisest political course toward Mexico, it will help in a thorough understanding of that country to examine the rich history, the ancient civilization, the prehistoric remains, to be found among our southern neighbors.

Of the sixteen million inhabitants, two-fifths claim direct descent from ancient tribes or families which are accepted as the basis of Mexican history, two-fifths are of mixed native and foreign blood, the remainder being classed under the common appellation of "foreign."

Throughout much of the country, and often within short distances of railroads, are remnants of some of the ancient native tribes or races, adhering to customs, methods, and speech of their ancestors.

Thus in Oaxaca are the Zapotecas and Mixtecas, the estimate for the two races being a half million, and a government publication mentions a dozen other families in the same State.

In Hidalgo and adjacent States, the Otomis; in Puebla and Oaxaca, the Mexicanos; the predominating Mayas in Yucatan; in Michoacan and Jalisco, the Tarascans, and the Tlaxcalans, in their native State, and other groups elsewhere, still maintain the tribal individualities.

Country Is Hodge-podge of Languages

Although Spanish is the language of the country and much English is spoken in the regions most visited, a large number of the natives use only the vernacular.

Prescott refers to the Aztecs, Tlaxcalans, and others as producers of delicate fabrics, colored by vegetable dyes; intricate designs in the precious metals, and beautiful decorations made of feathers; numerous ruins also indicate marvelous skill of ancient peoples in stone-work, especially as the tools used were obsidian or copper.

Evidences that this deftness in handiwork has been retained appears in the feather-work, wood-carving, stone-cutting, etc., of the present day. The beautiful pottery and unique weaves of serapes, made with the crudest appliances, and excellent fabrications in cast or wrought iron, filigree silver, etc., also bear testimony to the skill of the Mexican Indian.

Mexico may be described as a land of surprises, a country of extremes, a nation of contrasts, a domain of apparent contradictions; where the old and the new, the poor and the rich, the crude and the refined, are near neighbors; where the sleep of centuries often continues adjacent to present activities, and where ultra conservatism is elbowed by pronounced evidences of modern progress.

Did the Ancients Know the "New World"?

Mexico has a wealth of archeological relics, remnants of an ancient civilization of which no well-defined trace exists. Volumes have been written to demonstrate that the builders of what are now ruins were of Mongolian, Semitic, or Phœnician origin, but the riddle cannot be admitted as solved. All authorities, however, unite in praise of the magnitude and the perfection of workmanship shown at various ruins found throughout the Mexican territory. The region adjacent to some of these raises question as to the source of sustenance for multitudes which must have then existed, and causes speculation upon changes which may have occurred in the interval.

Prominent among these ruins are Uxmal and Chichen-Itza, in the State of Yucatan; Palenque, in the State of Chiapas; Mitla, in the State of Oaxaca, and Xochicalco, in the State of Morelos.

The pyramid of Cholula, in Puebla, and those of the Sun and Moon, in the State of Mexico, have also been liberally described, but distributed over wide areas are many other ruins which have had but little or no investigation, and rock sculptures, images, idols, and ancient pottery, found in numerous localities, are the only records of peoples whose history is unknown and whose names even are lost.

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Etiquette of the American Flag

CESSATION of war has not meant the furling of flags. Instead they are in constant evidence, and the proper manner of their display constantly arises, especially on parade days and at patriotic exercises.

While there is no federal law pertaining to the manner of displaying the flag, there are many regulations and usages of national force bearing on the subject. This bulletin quotes from an article in the flag number of the National Geographic Magazine, by Commander Byron McCandless, U. S. N., and Gilbert Grosvenor, as follows:

"In raising the flag it should never be rolled up and hoisted to the top of the staff before unfurling. Instead, the fly should be free during the act of hoisting, which should be done quickly. It should be taken in slowly and with dignity. It should not be allowed to touch the ground on shore, or the deck of a ship, nor should it be permitted to trail in the water or in the dust. It should not be hung where it can be contaminated or soiled easily, or draped over chairs or benches for seating purposes, and no object or emblem of any kind should be placed upon it or above it.

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An Epochal Event in World History

"The triumph of Perry upon which his fame chiefly rests was the opening of Japan to the world, one of the most important events in our history. The story of Perry's voyage to Japan has all the glamour of the stories of the Orient, and is fascinating beyond the imagination of the most fertile novelist. Armed with a letter from the President of the United States to his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Japan, saluted as a 'Great and Good Friend,' Commodore Perry made a thorough study of Japan and the Japanese character before starting on his epoch-making voyage.

"He carried as presents specimens of the products of the farm and factory, which he thought by their novelty and usefulness would interest the people of Japan. A miniature locomotive, with tracks and rails to be laid down, one mile of telegraph line with Morse instruments, photo-cameras, printing presses, puzzles and toys, some of the newest things in America, were in the cargo.

"The story of his wisdom, his patience, his consummate diplomacy, going into weeks and months and years, the employment of every art that statesmanship and strategy could invent, is as thrilling today as when it was first told. He had gone to Japan with a friendly key to open the door for the furtherance of trade, the protection of life, and to obtain a treaty with a power destined to occupy a large place in the world. Hurrying nothing, observing every ceremony that could appeal to those he would win as friends, Perry's success marked him as a diplomat of the first water.

Declined to Exclude Women

"When the negotiations had reached a stage where the high contracting parties had about agreed, Hayashi wished to insert a clause that no American woman should be brought to Japan. Tradition has it that when this proposition was submitted the Commodore excitedly exclaimed, 'Great Heavens! If I were to permit any such stipulation as that in the treaty, when I got home the women would pull all the hair out of my head!' And that was half a century and more before those wonderful evangelists, Anna Howard Shaw and Carrie Chapman Catt, taught us to believe in woman suffrage as a new creed in geographical and political expansion.

"Overlooking the harbor of Nippon stands a monument to Commodore Perry, commemorating the sailor-diplomat whose wisdom made Japan and America know and esteem each other. The friendship between these two nations has been cemented in the present-day partnership in the war for the triumph of free nations, in which they are allies. The spirit of Perry and Hayashi still pervades both countries, which, in the language of the letter borne by Perry, 'Live in friendship and commercial intercourse with each other.'"

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GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

Prince of Wales: His Title and His Motto

IN CONNECTION with the visit to America of the Prince of Wales it is worth while to know how the British Crown Prince acquired that title, and also the origin of his famous insignia, three ostrich plumes and the motto, "Ich dien" (I serve).

The story of the title borne by the heirs to the British throne dates back to the days of Llewelyn, the last of the Welsh princes, when that country still had a quasi-independent status.

In Welsh legend, song, and story, Llewelyn is a veritable King Arthur, and his brother, David, was the traitorous Modred of his court. Since Henry III, of England, had invested his heir, afterward Edward I, with all the English royal claims in Wales, it might have been supposed that Llewelyn would try to placate the young prince. The battle of Evesham, fought while Henry III was yet living, had resulted in many concessions to Llewelyn.

But Llewelyn incurred the displeasure of Edward by casting his lot with the famous Montfort family, and perpetrated what was considered a direct affront when he announced his bethrothal to Eleanor de Montfort. Moreover, he declined to attend the coronation of Edward.

Within two years after that coronation—just 500 years before the American Declaration of Independence was signed—Edward concluded a vigorous campaign in Wales with the Treaty of Conway, by which Llewelyn had to sign away most of the privileges he had won a decade earlier.

When Edward Conquered Wales

For five years Wales was quiet. Then David, who had aided the English king against his brother, headed a revolt against English rule, set a torch to Hawarden Castle, and precipitated a war in which Llewelyn was killed, and Edward was conqueror of Wales.

There was an ancient prophecy that the Prince of Wales some day would be crowned in London. In mockery of that, it is believed, Edward had Llewelyn's head cut off and brought to London, wreathed in ivy, to show the people.

While Edward was making sure of his subjugation of Wales by building a string of castles, Queen Eleanor joined him, and in the newly completed Carnarvon a son was born, who became the first English Prince of Wales, and later was King Edward II. According to a popular story, the conqueror exercised his grim humor by promising the Welsh a prince who could speak no English, construed to mean a native son, until Edward announced, upon the birth of his son, that the infant was the Prince of Wales in question.

Whether that story be true or not, the heir apparently was not formally invested with the title until he was seventeen years old. Ever since then the heir to the British throne has been known as the Prince of Wales, though usually he has been invested with the title and not so endowed upon birth.

No less romantic is the story of the insignia and motto of the Prince of Wales. Here again historians do not fully credit the generally accepted story. Certain it is that another Edward, known as "the Black Prince" because of the armor he wore, adopted the feathers and the pledge.

Blinded, He Went Into Battle on Horseback

The point of doubt is whether he actually did stumble over the body of the valiant John the Blind, of Bohemia, after the battle of Crecy, and was so struck with admiration of the sightless warrior, who had his charger attached to horses of his companions so he might not fail in loyalty to his ally, Philip of France, that Edward plucked the insignia from his enemy's uniform and swore to wear it forever after.

At least Edward's own bravery on that occasion and his chivalry upon many others make it entirely plausible that he should acknowledge the valor of an enemy. It was the first battle of magnitude in which the young prince had engaged, and his father, Edward III, watched from the crest of a hill, holding reinforcements in leash while his son fought against great odds. King Edward explained that he wanted his son to win his spurs in battle, nor did he wish to deprive him of credit for the victory.

The victory was most decisive, though one may discount somewhat the chroniclers who reported that the King of France fled at nightfall with only five knights and sixty soldiers, leaving more than 40,000 dead and dying men on the field.

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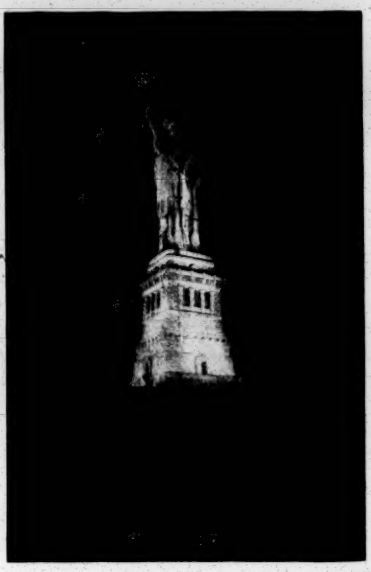

The Statue of Liberty: New York Harbor

This statue is often called "Liberty enlightening the world." It stands on an island near the entrance to New York Harbor. Strangers coming to live in our country watch eagerly for this statue. It was given to us by the French people, and is the work of a French artist.

In her right hand the figure of Liberty holds a torch. The torch is higher up than many a tall church steeple. The statue itself is so large that all the pupils in your room could stand inside the head at once. Each hand is sixteen feet long, with fingers eight feet in length. How high would a finger reach in your school-room? Each eye is two and one-half feet from corner to corner.

To visit the statue you ride across New York Harbor to the island in a small steamboat. Inside the statue there is an elevator which will carry you to the top, or you can climb up by stairways. At the top you look out from the head at all the wonders of New York Harbor.

This shows you how Liberty looks at night, flood-lighted by powerful searchlights, so she can be seen far out at sea.

United States—Page 4.
Sub-topic: Monuments

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SPECIMEN PAGE, REDUCED IN SIZE, OF THE "PICTORIAL GEOGRAPHY" (See Bulletin No. 5)

SPECIAL NOTICE

Because of difficulty in getting the high grade of paper on which the Geographic News Bulletin is being printed, and the fact that a ton each week now is required, there has been a delay in printing this edition. Therefore, since timeliness is an essential element in preparation of the bulletins, the date of this issue is November 24. The date of the preceding issue was November 3.

CONTENTS FOR WEEK BEGINNING NOVEMBER 24, 1919

1. Versailles: Where a King Made Pancakes and Nations Make History.
2. Azores: May Be Aerial Half-Way House.
3. Chateau-Thierry.
4. The Five Provinces of Turkey.
5. Teaching Geography by Sight-Seeing Method.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Versailles: Where a King Made Pancakes and Nations Make History

IF ONE were to compile a list of the seven historic spots of the world, as a companion set to the seven wonders, the Palace of Versailles, where the German delegates signed the peace treaty, would be sure of a place among them.

There Great Britain first recognized the independence of the United States; there the Third Estate formed a national assembly and gave birth to the French Revolution; there William I was crowned Emperor of Germany while Paris was being besieged; and there representatives of the civilized world not only made peace with "the madman of Europe," but signed a document that may rank in history with the Magna Carta and the Declaration of Independence.

Nor is this mammoth palace, which once could house a city of 10,000 persons, merely a historic shrine of epochal ceremonies. It vibrates with echoes of human dramas more vivid and enthralling than any stage piece Molière showed there to distract the blasé Louis XIV and his dazzling court.

There the unhappy Vallière, the vainglorious Montespan, and the austere Maintenon successively loved, infatuated, and exploited the magnificent Louis; there, too, the brilliant Pompadour and the seductive du Barry shone among the galaxy of mistresses; and there some ten thousand drunken women from Paris broke through the gates and sent Louis fleeing to the Tuilleries.

First a Hunting Lodge; Then a Palace

Mere chance set Versailles on a historic eminence. Nature provided only a flat, sandy stretch of country, so arid that the kings never could get water enough for the magnificent fountains. Louis XIII chanced to have a hunting château there; so the next Louis was attracted there. He planned his residence on so grandiose a scale that the leveling of the land, building of a road to Paris, and construction of an aqueduct engaged 30,000 men for many years.

It was in the same gallery of mirrors, literally the "galerie des glaces," where the first William realized his ambition to rule all Germany, that the erstwhile subjects of the second William paid the penalty for his mania to rule the world.

What scenes those mirrors have reflected! They saw the Louis who proclaimed himself "the state," with his diamond-embroidered coat and red-heeled slippers four inches high; his bloated, milk-fed successor, whose most arduous exercise was frying pancakes for his mistress' breakfast; the irresolute Louis XVI, predestined to disaster, and the tragic figure of Marie Antoinette, she who "could bow to ten persons with one movement, giving with her head and eyes the recognition due to each one," finally bowing to the headman's blade.

Famous Gardens Weird and Wonderful

The gallery of mirrors gets its name from seventeen beveled mirrors, more precious than rubies before glass-making was reduced to a science. Opposite each mirror is a window, and these windows overlook the famous gardens, scene of royal revelries and regal pomp, where all the sculptors of standing in France were commandeered for innumerable pieces, where the piped waters spout from mouths of gilded frogs and lizards, while fauns play flutes and dragons kidnap Cupids, and where the stately old trees give one touch of nature against this supremely artificial setting.

The mirrors do not exhaust the magnificence of the spacious gallery. They are framed in works of art and surmounted by paintings. One series depicts in flamboyant scenes the career of Louis XIV. Tables and chairs in this hall were of solid silver. The ensemble was typical of the ostentation and the emptiness of the yoke from which France freed herself.

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Azores: May Be Aërial Half-way House

THE Azores Islands, probable mid-Atlantic respite for future transocean airplane flights, have been an oceanic half-way house ever since Columbus halted there to offer thanks for his success upon his way home after discovering America.

Farthest from a continent of any Atlantic island group, the islands lie 830 miles west of Cape da Roca, Portugal, and more than a thousand miles southeast of Newfoundland, nearest North American land.

Volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, while the former were active, made the Azores objects of scientific interest akin to that evinced in the now famous Mount Katmai region in Alaska. Suboceanic eruptions, sometimes piling up islands which soon disappeared, were characteristic phenomena. One early description of such an event tells how the earth and waters were rocked for eight days by earthquakes, followed by a vast caldron of fire that seemed to sweep the sea's surface and consume the clouds, spewing enormous masses of earth and rock. Then there appeared a group of rocks, ever growing higher and wider until an area of several square miles was contained in this "no man's land." Later it was shattered, and subsided, as the result of more earthquakes.

Land Area Less Than Rhode Island

The Azores comprise three groups of islands. Their total area is less than that of Rhode Island; their population about equal to that of Kansas City, Mo. Most of the inhabitants are Portuguese. The rest are Flemish and Moorish, with a few immigrants from the United Kingdom.

Fruits and fish constitute the principal exports. Oranges are supplanting pineapples, but the other products—lemon, citron, Japanese medlar, and bananas—maintain their popularity. The principal fish are the mullet, tunny, and bonito.

Saint Michaels, largest island of the group, has lava beds, caves which may be traversed for miles, and a mammoth crater with two jeweled lakes—one azure, the other emerald—at its bottom.

On Santa Maria is the church where Columbus knelt. Off Terceira a submarine volcano made its appearance as recently as half a century go. On Corvo have been unearthed coins which suggest Carthaginian visits, and an Arabian geographer of the twelfth century described islands of the "Western Ocean" thought to have been the Azores.

Dutiful Nephew Presents Aunt with Island

About the middle of the fifteenth century the Portuguese sent expeditions to settle upon them. One island, Fayal, was presented by Alphonso V, of Portugal, to his aunt, Isabella, Duchess of Burgundy. It was upon her marriage to Philip the Good, Duke of Burgundy, that he founded the famous knightly order of the Golden Fleece.

In 1829 supporters of Maria da Gloria against Miguel, in the struggle for the Portuguese crown, established themselves on the islands, and for the three years following Queen Maria lived at Angra, one of the seaports of importance. Others are Ponta Delgada and Horta.

Treasure fleets from the West Indies in olden days put in at the Azores. Celebrated in British naval tradition is the exploit of Sir Richard Grenville, whose ship, *Revenge*, accidentally separated from its fleet, held out for 15 hours against 15 Spanish ships.

Previously Grenville commanded the fleet sent out by Sir Walter Raleigh, his cousin, which landed off what now is North Carolina. The doughty commander died shortly after he was taken aboard the Spanish flagship. The *Revenge* had borne Drake in his battle with the Armada, of which Tennyson says, in a poem about this famous encounter:

> Ship after ship, the whole night long, their high-built galleons came,
> Ship after ship, the whole night long, with her battle thunder and flame;
> Ship after ship, the whole night long, drew back with her dead and her shame;
> For some were sunk and many were shatter'd, and so could fight no more—
> God of battles, was ever a battle like this in the world before?

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Château-Thierry

CHÂTEAU-THIERRY, now an American shrine on French soil, is situated on an eminence on the north bank of the River Marne. It has been the storm center of battle for many centuries. It was in this neighborhood that Napoleon defeated the Russo-Prussians just 104 years ago; it was sacked in 1652, during the Fronde, "the most costly and least necessary civil war in history"; it fell before the army of Emperor Charles V in 1544, and was besieged and captured by the English in 1421, just eight years before the spectacular advent of Joan of Arc on the scene of French history.

The founding of Château-Thierry goes back to the eighth century, when Charles Martel, the victor at the Battle of Tours and savior of Christendom from the Saracen hordes, built a castle here for the Frankish monarch, Thierry IV; hence the name of the town.

Wine Market of Champagne District

The famous vineyards of Champagne begin at Château-Thierry, and the town is, naturally, a great wine market. Before the war it also enjoyed a considerable trade in cattle and agricultural products, while it was famous in the industrial world for its excellent mathematical and musical instruments. The importance of the town is out of all proportion to its size, for in 1910 it had not more than 7,000 inhabitants.

Château-Thierry is only 59 miles by rail east-northeast of the French capital, being situated on the Eastern Railway, running from Paris to Nancy.

French King Imprisoned There

Like its sister towns of Peronne and Ham, Château-Thierry enjoys the dubious distinction of having served at one time as the place of imprisonment of a French king. When Charles the Simple, posthumous son of Louis the Stammerer, was hard pressed by his enemies, he turned to Herbert, Count of Vermandois, as his friend and protector, but the latter betrayed him and placed the monarch in confinement here.

The ruins of Charles Martel's castle still crown the hill which dominates Château-Thierry. It is approached by a flight of 102 steps.

The most famous native son of the town was Jean de La Fontaine, the noted poet and fabulist, who was born in 1621, in a house still standing and now used as a library and museum.

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The Five Provinces of Turkey

TO APPRECIATE the present problems of assigning Turkey to proper mandatories, it is needful to know the pre-war organization of the Ottoman Empire. The five provinces into which Asiatic Turkey was divided are described by William H. Hall in a communication to the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, which follows:

Anatolia (the name is from a Turkish work meaning "the dawn") lies between the Black and Mediterranean seas. This district is the home of the greater part of the Turkish population, perhaps 7,000,000 in all. Here is a case where the people can be distinguished from the government. Even the so-called subject races have suffered but little more at the hands of the governing officials than the common Turkish people.

When one remembers that all government of the Empire lay solely in the hands of a group of not more than 300 men, and that they imposed their selfish will on Turk and Christian alike, one readily understands how a distinction can be made between people and government. In spite of a constitution having been proclaimed and a parliament summoned, the people, whether of Turkish or other race, have had absolutely no voice in the affairs of the nation.

Armenia, east of Anatolia, extending to the region of the Caucasus and the Persian border, is the site of the ancient Kingdom of Armenia. The population is not wholly Armenian—in fact, even before the war the majority of the people were Turks and Kurds—but here the bulk of the Armenian race was found.

It is a rugged land, a succession of mountains and valleys, where the people have had to contend with Nature for the establishment and maintenance of their homes; but, like all highland countries, it has been the means of producing a religious, freedom-loving people.

They were the first nation to embrace Christianity when, in the latter half of the third century, their king, Tiradates, accepted the new faith, and most of the nation followed him. Throughout all the succeeding centuries they have remained steadfast against wave after wave of persecution, until this last storm of hate and fanaticism has swept the greater part from their homes and has destroyed at least a million—two-thirds of the entire people.

Kurdistan, a hill country north of the Tigris River, is the home of a brave, virile, largely illiterate series of tribes and clans known as the Kurds. They are the descendants of the Cardushi, who gave Xenophon and his ten thousand so much difficulty on their march across these same hills on their way to the sea.

Nominally they are Moslem in religion, but they have retained many elements of heathen worship. Some of their tribes are "Yesdi," or devil-worshipers They are home-loving, frugal, and capable of enduring great harships. They practice strict monogamy and their women occupy an equal place with their men in the family life.

The Kurds have furnished at least one great man to history; for Saladin, the chivalrous leader of the Saracen hosts, the compeer of Richard Cœur de Lion, was from this people.

Mesopotamia, Upper and Lower, vies with Egypt in claiming the honor of being the home of ancient civilization. It comprises the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Here flourished the Chaldean, Babylonian, and Assyrian empires. The city of Bagdad, with all its glamour of mystery and magic, is in the heart of Mesopotamia.

This was the richest land in the world, the granary of the ancients; yet, in spite of all that it has been, it today lies largely waste; the desert sands have encroached upon the fertile fields, while the clogged canals have turned other portions into swamps and marshes.

What population there is—not more than one million—is of Arab origin and the Arabic language is spoken throughout. There is, in fact, a very distinct dividing line between the Arabic and the Turkish-speaking portions of the Ottoman Empire. This boundary corresponds with the line of the Bagdad Railway from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf. It is for the exploitation of this rich land of Mesopotamia that the famous Bagdad line was built.

Syria, the region extending from the Taurus Mountains to Egypt and from the desert to "the Great Sea," needs no identification. It is the land of the patriarchs and prophets and apostles—"the Holy Land." Its population numbers about three and a half million, of Semitic origin, speaking the Arabic language, and yet with so many races intermingled through the centuries of the various conquests and occupations that the people cannot claim any one race as their own. Greek, Roman, and European Crusader have all blended with the ancient Semitic stock to produce the Syrians of today, whom Lord Cromer, in his memoirs, termed "the cream of the East."

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Teaching Geography by Sight-Seeing Method

ANNOUNCEMENT has just been made of a new department of the work of the National Geographic Society, whereby its immense reservoir of geographic photographs will become available to public schools.

"If 90 United States Senators were keenly concerned about exact details of the peace treaty, some 400,000 school teachers who teach geography are just as anxious to see the new maps that must come in the wake of the signing of that epochal document," the statement says.

"But why worry about maps?

"Maps are necessary, but before they can glow with fire and meaning the things that grow and live and move inside the boundaries they indicate must be impressed upon a child's mind.

"If the schools had to go without maps for a year and had pictures instead, perhaps the children would be the gainers. Anyway, maps or no maps, The Society has arranged to take 20,000,000 American school children—enough to fill four magnificent cities the size of our great New York—on a sight-seeing picture tour of the world.

"A picture gives the inkling of what a volcano is like and avoids such amusing, and yet pathetic, answers to examinations as 'Vesuvius is a mountain which continually emits saliva,' or 'Boulevards are churches in Paris thronged with gayly dressed people,' or 'An isthmus is a bottle with a narrow neck.'

Anyway, the Definition was "Depressing"

"Recent work in geography has made tremendous strides in this respect. Adults will remember the definitions they had to learn, and some of us were kept in sunny afternoons because we could not make them stick in our minds. For example, 'An island is a body of land completely surrounded by water,' or 'Ponds and lakes are bodies of water that occupy depressions in the land.' Whatever depressions in the land might be, it was beyond us to fathom, but woe be to us if we could not tell that lakes occupied them.

"As we read over and over the pages of our books, few of us ever got the picture of the Rocky Mountains with their lofty ranges, the wonders of the Yellowstone, the spectacle of Niagara Falls pouring out its rainbow spray.

"If students of one of our best-known universities would write, as they did in a test recently, that Japan is a country of 750 square miles, and Alaska is southwest of the North Pole, and knew not the country of Buenos Aires, the largest city of the Southern Hemisphere, what hope is there of teaching grade pupils anything of their new world neighbors, the Czechs, the Poles, or the Jugo-Slavs?

"What, indeed, but pictures of the people, the trees, the plants, and the animals of those places? The interests of boys and girls center in the world about them. They are full of curiosity about those bunches of yellow and green bananas at the corner grocery. The huckster seems a far cry from the map of Central America and a study of 'the surface, climate, population, products, and capital cities' listed in the geographies; yet pictures make the magic connection. With them the children go on a journey to Costa Rica, visit the banana plantations, see how the fruit grows, and meet the black boys and men who gather the luscious food.

Making the Pupil Ask Questions

"Washington, D. C., is not a hazy abstraction, where something called the Government exercises a threefold function, 'legislative, executive, judicial,' but a city of beautiful parks, wide streets, and—here's the touchstone again—a White House, a Capitol, a Washington Monument, which are bound to elicit the question, 'What are they for'?

"Because the National Geographic Society is not a commercial firm, and must pay no profit to any corporation or individual, it has been able to place the entire resources of its organization, with its 700,000 members, at the service of the public schools, in supplying geographic pictures at nominal cost. The wealth of its pictures, gathered from every nook and corner of the world, thus are being made available, with the co-operation of school officials, to public schools all over the country. There literally is a picture for every phase of geography teaching, for every topic, for every geographic word.

"In preparation for this new phase of carrying out its purpose, 'the increase and diffusion of geographic knowledge,' it has established a new department, known as the School Service, of which Miss Jessie L. Burrall is chief."

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CONTENTS FOR WEEK BEGINNING NOVEMBER 3, 1919

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2. Where We Get Our Coal, and How.
3. Ants—And Bolshevism. (For Nature Study classes.)
4. Thrace: Where Geography Repeats Itself.
5. Greece May Get "Enchanted Island" (Cyprus).

YOUR CO-OPERATION IS INVITED

WHAT use are you making of the Geographic News Bulletin?

Have you any suggestions concerning its preparation which would make it more valuable to you?

The National Geographic Society, which is preparing and printing the bulletins for the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Education, invites correspondence relating to these questions.

The aim of the Bureau of Education and The National Geographic Society is to make the bulletins as useful as possible to the widest possible number of teachers.

Comments from teachers and from school officials will be welcomed. So far as the suggestions made seem to be for making the bulletins more generally useful, they will be adopted. Of course, it should be realized that the special needs of some schools may be in conflict with the broader demands which the Geographic News Bulletin is designed to meet.

Within a month after the first announcement of its publication was made in "School Life," the Geographic News Bulletin was requested by more than 22,000 teachers.

This enormous demand delayed mailing the early issues somewhat, but every effort now is being made to dispatch the weekly issue promptly. It will be noted that the bulletins carry the date of each Monday, and if they are not received within three weeks of that date inquiry about them may be made to the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C., concerning the causes for such delay.

AN EXPLANATION

The Geographic News Bulletins may be used as collateral reading in History, Geography, and Current Events classes. Some of them will be of use in Literature and Science courses.

They are intended to aid the teacher in introducing the pupil to the Geography and History of places at that crucial moment when the pupil's interest in those places has been aroused.

They are designed to meet the urgent demand for complete accounts of peoples and places which no text-book possibly can give.

They seek to be, first of all, accurate, and, after that, readable, that they may stimulate interest in the subjects treated.

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The Saar Valley

ANCIENT castles and mines, old monasteries crowded by new factories which sometimes usurp historic abbeys, wooded and jagged hills dimmed by a pall of smoke. Such is the pre-war picture of the Saar Valley, now controlled by the Allies and patrolled, in part, by American troops.

Prized for its precious coal deposits, among the richest in Europe, this valley, which played such a conspicuous part in the peace conference deliberations, is a highly compact area when compared to American coal-fields.

The Saar Valley, strictly speaking, extends along the Saar River from Conz, where it empties into the Moselle, five miles above Treves, southward into Lorraine, where the river is artificially extended to the Rhine and Marne Canal, an air-line distance of less than 75 miles.

The coal-fields themselves lie about Saarbrucken. They cover about 70 square miles, and before the war produced some 10,000,000 tons a year. That tonnage equals a third of the normal annual coal output in France. But the extent seems small when compared with the 16,000 square miles of the Pennsylvania belt, and the yield is but one-fortieth of the coal mined annually in the United States.

A Valley of Wines and Mines

Thus not all the Saar Valley, it is evident, is a mining region. Toward the mouth of the little river are vineyards, often planted in the beds of the former loops of the river before it carved out more direct courses, from which came a portion of the famous Moselle wines.

Moselle wines are older than the Rhine wines. Vines were planted along the Moselle less than three centuries after the birth of Christ. A Latin poet, Ansonius, sang their praises in "Mosella," wherein he also mentioned a royal villa whose remains are to be seen at Conz to this day.

Traveling up the Saar, the peaceful vineyards soon seem far away, amid the hum of industry from many a small manufacturing town. The valley is populous, but there are no large cities. The industries are scattered through numerous small towns, such as Saarburg, Saarlouis, Serrig, Merzig, and Taben.

Near the Lorraine border is Saarbrucken, metropolis of the region, with only 30,000 population. Not all the coal mined in the Saarbrucken fields is used in local industries. Before the war much of it went up the Saar and through the canals to Italy and Switzerland.

Camouflage of Fifty Years Ago

Saarbrucken, but 40 miles northeast of Metz and 45 miles from the French border, was the Fort Sumter of the Franco-Prussian war, scene of the first and last success of the French arms in 1870, and the one brief foothold the French gained on German soil. There Napoleon III, with his son at his side, led the unprepared French forces against a vanguard of the army of Prince Frederick Charles. The Germans practiced an adroit sort of camouflage. Day by day the same soldiers would appear in different uniforms and new caps, leading the French to believe they were opposing a much greater force than was on hand at that point.

When the Emperor's son fired the first mitrailleuse the war was on, the Prussians retreated in a few hours, and in Paris the victory was hailed as a smashing initial success. Later it was learned that fewer than a hundred men were killed on both sides. Four days later the Germans recaptured Saarbrucken and proceeded toward Paris.

Nearly every town along the Saar has some historic landmark. At Saarburg are the ruins of the old castle of the Electors of Treves; at Serrig is a chapel where Frederick William IV laid away the remains of King John of Bohemia; Taben has many ancient abbeys; at Mettlach is an eighth century home of the Benedictines which was utilized by an earthenware factory more than a century ago; at Merzig is a Roman cathedral of the twelfth century, and Saarlouis is the birthplace of Marshal Ney, "the bravest of the brave." An old castle at Saarbrucken saw the rule of the Counts of Ardennes, the proprietorship of Nassau, the garrisons of France, the iron rule of Germany, and now passes to Allied control.

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Prepared Weekly by

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Where We Get Our Coal, and How

AS A BY-PRODUCT of the interest in the coal strike, it might be well to ask, "Where do we get our coal, and how?"

This bulletin answers this question by quoting from a communication to the National Geographic Society by William Joseph Showalter, as follows:

We will first visit the anthracite fields, that wonderful region in Pennsylvania which lies to the north of Reading, to the south of Carbondale, east of the Susquehanna, and west of the Lehigh rivers. Scranton and Wilkes-Barre are the center of the upper field, Hazleton of the middle field, and Pottsville of the lower.

Were all of the coal-beds in this remarkable region laid out in a compact body, they would cover an area only twenty-two miles square. Yet out of such a small area have come billions of tons of coal and culm, the former to cheer a million firesides, and the latter to dot every landscape, and to serve as monuments to remind us of the patient toil of hundreds of thousands of men through scores of years.

A visit to a modern colliery is an impressive experience. Depending on its size and the labor available, it will bring from one to two full trainloads of coal up out of the bowels of the earth every day, put the coal through the breaker, where the sheep of fuel are separated from the goats of slate and culm, and load it into the cars ready for market.

Fans Control "Lungs of the Mine"

The giant fans fly around with a rim speed of a mile a minute, two of them, with a third in reserve for emergencies. If it were not for those fans the air in the mine would become so laden with gas and dust that if it did not explode and transform the whole mine into a charnel-house, it would develop choke-damp and suffocate us. These fans are to the mine what the involuntary muscles of the chest are to the lungs—they make it breathe.

Every mine has two shafts—the hoisting shaft and the air shaft. In order to keep the air in the mine free enough from gas to permit miners to work in safety, enormous quantities of fresh air must be sent down the one shaft and corresponding quantities, gas-laden, drawn out of the other.

Before going down into the mine the superintendant will give us each a miner's lamp. At this particular mine the lamp is a tiny teapot affair containing sperm oil and with a spout full of cotton yarn. Also, he will equip us with electric hand-lamps, to be used in any emergency. Then he will stick an extra ball of yarn in his pocket and we will start for the "cage," which is the mine name for elevator.

We step on, he presses a button, and the hoisting engineer is notified that we are ready to go down. Suddenly the cage seems to drop; then it seems to stop, and the walls of the shaft appear fairly to fly upward past us. Up, up, up they fly, disclosing this stratum of rock and then that.

Arriving at the bottom, we soon find that a coal mine is planned like a city. There is one main street, or entry, and it has been laid out with the nicety of a grand boulevard. Parallel with this are other entries, and across these entries run other streets, at right angles, usually, which are called headings. Lining all these headings as houses line the streets are the chambers, or rooms, in which the miners work.

Some Mining Still Done by Hand

In the anthracite region mining is still done principally by hand. Some jack-hammer drills have been introduced and some electric coal-cutting machines, but hand methods still produce most of the anthracite. The jack-hammer drill is an instrument which bores the blast-holes by power. With one of these drills a miner is enabled to bore as many holes in one hour as he can bore in eighteen with a hand-drill.

When we reach the top again, we note the layout of the breaker plant, where the coal is cleaned and sorted into the several commercial sizes.

Going up to the top of the breaker, we see the coal as it comes from the mine, with all its slate and culm, mechanically dumped, a carload at a time, upon the oscillating bars, which begin the process of separating the coal from the worthless material and the assorting of the former into groups according to size.

There are dry breakers and wet ones, but this has no reference to the presence or absence of prohibition. Dry breakers are those where the coal comes from the mine fairly clean and goes through the breaker without being watered, either for the suppression of dust or for the washing of the coal.

Also, there are breakers which separate the slate and culm from the coal by jigs rather than by centrifugal pickers. In these the coal as it comes from the mine is "jigged" up and down in water. The coal settles more slowly than the slate and culm and can therefore be skimmed off like cream from milk.

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Ants--and Bolshevism

THOUGH any one who has read Henri Fabre must be aware of the comedy and romance and tragedy to be found among the birds, plants, and insects of his own back yard, yet it would seem a far cry to peer into an ant-hill to see why the communistic state is not adapted to man.

William Morton Wheeler, a noted zoölogist, in a communication to the National Geographic Society, seems to touch upon what might be termed the "Biology of Bolshevism." He says:

While in most respects man and the insect differ enormously, both nevertheless display some remarkable convergent similarities. They are the only two successful and dominant animal types of the present age, and, so far as they are social, not only have had to encounter the same obstacles, but have learned to overcome many of them in the same manner.

The social insects, however, have been more successful than man in organizing stable communities, because they have frankly trusted and followed their instincts and have therefore carried their social organization to its logical, or perhaps we had better say instinctive, conclusion; whereas man's intellectual processes and the ideals and dissensions to which they give birth forever prevent a definitive solution of economic problems and keep him in a state of active and ceaseless evolution.

Ants to be Found Everywhere.

Ants are to be found everywhere, from the Arctic regions to the tropics, from timberline on the loftiest mountains to the shifting sands of the dunes and seashores, and from the dampest forests to the driest deserts. Not only do they outnumber in individuals all other terrestial animals, but their colonies, even in very circumscribed localities, often defy enumeration.

Their colonies are, moreover, remarkably stable, sometimes outlasting a generation of men. Such stability is, of course, due to the longevity of the individual ants, since worker ants are known to live from 4 to 7 years and queens from 13 to 15 years.

The ant colony or society may be regarded as an organism which, like the individual insects of which it consists, grows and develops to a fixed adult size, and the size to which it grows is characteristic of the species, just as is the size of any individual. Some ants always form diminutive colonies of only a few dozen individuals, whereas the colonies of other species, when mature, may comprise thousands or hundreds of thousands. The growth of these colonies obviously depends on the quantity and quality of the available food supply and on its distribution for immediate consumption or its storage for the future use of the colony.

The ethnic history of ants parallels that of man to the extent that these insects were originally flesh-eating hunters, then shepherds of food-producing herds, and finally agriculturists, and that they have been compelled to pass through these stages or forfeit the advantages of living in populous and stationary communities.

A Novel Eating Apparatus

Ants feed on a great variety of substances, but in all cases only the liquid portions of the food are taken into the alimentary tract. If the food is solid, minute particles of it are rasped off by means of the tongue and pressed into a small pocket in the floor of the mouth. The juices expressed from the mass are then sucked back through the gullet into a dilated portion of the alimentary tract, the crop, and the useless pellet is spit out.

The crop is closed behind by a complicated valve, which separates it from a short, baglike stomach, the walls of which have a permeable lining, so that it and the succeeding portions of the alimentary tract, the intestine, are able to digest and absorb any food which may be permitted to enter them through the valve.

The crop and the true stomach have been called respectively the "social" and "individual" stomachs, because the liquid food stored in the former is in great part distributed by regurgitation to other ants, whenever they signify their hunger by protruding their tongues and making supplicatory gestures with their feelers, and because none of the food in this receptacle can be used by the individual unless it passes through the valve into the true stomach.

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Thrace: Where Geography Repeats Itself

ANCIENT Thrace, one of the morning lands of the world's history, for parts of which Greece presented claims to the Peace Conference, affords a parallel to the difficulties of self-determination already experienced along the eastern shores of the Adriatic.

It will be recalled that the spirited dispute between Jugo-Slavia and Italy arose from the fact that Italians were predominant in coastal cities, while the hinterland was undeniably Slavic. The Latin peoples of Italy had gone across the Adriatic in past centuries, settled along the east Adriatic shores, but were pushed well out to islands and peninsulas by the influx of Slavic tribes.

In much the same way this phenomenon was duplicated, in an earlier age, on the eastern side of the Balkan Peninsula, where lay the extremely mobile Thrace. The Greeks colonized the coast cities of Thrace, on what now are the Marmora, Black and Ægean Seas, not for settlement so much as for trading stations. They did not seek to impinge upon the Thracians of the interior.

Thus Constantinople was founded, and thus Greece early came into possession of the peninsula now called Gallipoli, building a wall across the five-mile neck of the isthmus to keep the Thracians within bounds.

Nation Had Sponge-like Qualities

Shrinking and expanding, and changing its conformation time and time again, as Darius invaded it, Xerxes abandoned it, Philip II united part of it with Macedonia and garrisoned the rest, the Romans organized it as a province, Thrace dropped at last into the capacious maw of the Turks with the fall of Constantinople in 1453, that memorable date from which some historians mark the beginnings of modern history.

Later the western part, that Philip joined to Macedonia, fell within the limits of pre-war Serbia, and the northern part became eastern Rumelia, which was given to Bulgaria at the London settlement of 1913. The rest remained with European Turkey until the World War exploded that domain and left the pieces to be the stepchildren of the Allied nations.

Adrianople, once the Paris of Thrace, and later the Versailles of the Turkish sultans, is a picturesque, if somewhat unkempt, reminder of the ancient days. But more familiar, perhaps, is the name of Philippi, in the center of the rich gold mine district of Thrace and near the hill of Dionysius, which owes its fame to neither of those facts so much as to the visits of Paul, who wrote letters to his converts that were incorporated in the Bible as the book of Philippians.

Moral Standards Were Not High

Dionysius, or Bacchus, as the Romans call the god, typified the loose morality of the wild and barbarous inhabitants of Thrace originally, for the Thracians of historic times already were a composite people.

Even in Grecian days the worship of Dionysius consisted of wild nocturnal orgies. There is the story that three women who declined to join in the revelries were translated into doves, and a king of Thrace was reputed to have resisted a visit of Dionysius to his domain. The god escaped by a plunge into the sea, but the king was stricken with blindness and a frenzy, so the myth relates, that caused him to hew down his son, believing him to be a tree.

At one period Thrace had an alliance with Greece, but the relation of the two nations at other periods is a moot question. Certain it is that the cultured Greeks regarded the Thracians as a rugged and semi-barbarous people, just as they regarded the climate of Thrace as severe, and believed it to be the home of Boreas, the north wind.

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Greece May Get "Enchanted Island"

CYPRUS, fairy land of the Mediterranean, which, it has been suggested, Great Britain may turn over to Greece, exemplifies a bromide, for the fiction in Shakespeare's "Othello" for which the island, in part, is the setting is no stranger than the vivid drama of actual history enacted there.

Richard Cœur de Lion wrested it from a ruler who had won it by forging letters in his monarch's name after that ruler, Isaac Comnenus, had refused to let the Crusader's shipwrecked and seasick lady love land there the first time she asked.

Richard married Berengaria there and went his way, after turning over the island to a penniless adventurer, Guy de Lusignan, who founded a "feudal State amongst spice gardens and silken luxury," and thus established a dynasty which has been described as the most romantic in European history.

Cyprus bulks large in the crotch of Asia Minor, like a huge fist with a lean finger pointing straight at Antioch. Historically, one may imagine, the finger should be crooked a bit more, in perpetual accusation of the Sultan, the degenerate Selim II, whose generals captured the island, impelled in part, at least, by the fact that Selim's favorite wine came from there. Geographically, the promontory marks the line of Cyprus' prehistoric connection with Asia's mainland.

There, too, reigned the beautiful Queen Catherine Cornaro, adopted "daughter of Venice," who, though grief-stricken by her husband's death, struggled against intrigue that the throne might be saved for his unborn child.

Ancient Library Had a "Card Catalogue"

Early came to Cyprus those "Yankees of the Levant," the Phœnicians. Sargon, the King of Assyria who, as Isaiah had prophesied, led "the Egyptians prisoners and the Ethiopians captives," also conquered Cyprus. Esarhaddon, the Cæsar and Carnegie of Assyria, who left at Nineveh an indexed library of many thousands of clay tablets, received tributes from ten Cyprian kings.

Pausanias, Benedict Arnold of Sparta, liberated Cyprus from Persian dominion, and Evagoras, one of the island kings, hero of the world's first known biography, penned by Isocrates, who united the scattered principalities, is the King Arthur of island tradition.

Thus Cyprus reeks with composite memories of eastern, Grecian, Roman and even Anglo-Saxon civilization. No less was it a focal point for religions.

At Kouklia, where certain tides still pile masses of foam along the shore, Aphrodite is supposed to have been born of the waves. Here are ruins of a temple for her worship, where originally fêtes were held which, as one writer puts it, "were the scenes of a too literal worship of Venus," and where until recently it was the custom to immerse maidens in honor of the goddess' birth.

Kouklia is on the site of the ancient Paphos. The Paphos of today was the one-time Neapaphos, where St. Paul struck blind the sorcerer, Elymas, and converted Sergius Paulus, the Roman deputy.

Where Lazarus Was Bishop

The present-day Larnaka is on the site of the Biblical Chittim, whose ships are mentioned by Daniel and whose ivory is referred to by Ezekiel. In Larnaka is the tomb of Lazarus, who, after being raised from the dead, is said to have become bishop of the renowned city.

The area of Cyprus is about equal to the combined areas of Delaware and Rhode Island, while its total population is about half that of the latter State. Greek, of almost classic purity, is spoken.

The people follow agricultural pursuits, along primitive lines, and until recently the famed Cyprian wine had its flavor affected unpleasantly by the use of tarred skins as carriers. Among the other products are grains, vetches, and carobs, the locust beans which John the Baptist is supposed to have eaten while in the wilderness. Marble is quarried, asbestos is found, salt is produced and there are sponge fisheries, but the copper, from which the island derived its name, has been exhausted.

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GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

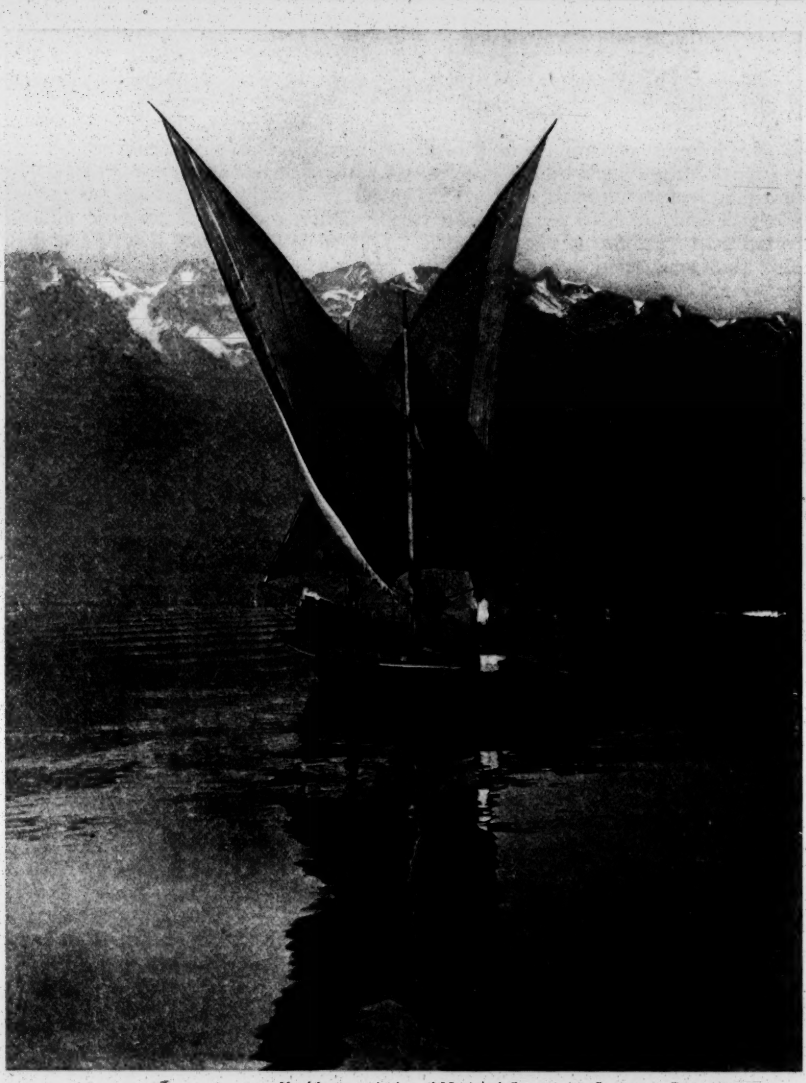
THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)
General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education



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A MARINE BUTTERFLY ASAIL IN THE SHADOW OF THE SWISS ALPS

Geneva, capital of the League of Nations (see Bulletin No. 5), overlooks the limpid waters of Lake Geneva. From that famous lake may be seen the towering peaks of the Alps, and on it commodious saloon steamers of modern type ply side by side with these picturesque craft with their lateen sails of red.

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The Bermudas

THE Bermuda Islands suggest the adventures of Robinson Crusoe in their colonization and present in their later chronology a curious parallel to United States history, with the events pre-dated by a number of years.

The Bermudas form a principal group of the British West Indies, which some Englishmen suggest should be ceded to the United States in part payment of the American war loans to Great Britain.

The Robinson Crusoe comparison obtrudes because the island was discovered and later settled as the direct result of shipwrecks, and the settlers had to build themselves a bark to set sail again.

As for the anticipation of American history on a miniature scale, it may be noted that the colonization took place seven years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, Mass.; that witches were burned, Quakers were persecuted, and miscreants were ducked before similar occurrences are recorded in New England, and that slavery was abolished in 1834. The Bermudians protested long before 1776 against the mother country's rule, until the island prisons were over full; but relief came in their case not through a declaration of freedom, but by the accession of Cromwell.

But the essential point of contact of the American with the Bermudian arises from the all-but-forgotten fact that while the immortal Lafayette gallantly helped the colonies conclude their war of independence, the Bermudians supplied the ammunition to begin it.

When Washington Needed Powder

So acute was the need for powder in 1775 that George Washington wrote to the Governor of Rhode Island that "no quantity, however small, is beneath notice." Learning that there was a store in Bermuda, and that the islanders were anxious to have the embargo lifted upon shipment of food supplies from the colonies, Washington addressed a letter to the people of the island, who had shown themselves sympathetic with the American revolutionists, promising them ample supply of provisions and "every other mark of affection and friendship which the grateful citizens of a free country can bestow on its brethren and benefactors" if they would make this ammunition available for the Continental army.

It so happened that the powder had been procured before the letter was delivered, and with it the Continental army compelled the British to evacuate Boston.

Not only the sale of the powder, but the fact that Bermuda allowed the colonies to have salt, so incensed its governor that he upbraided the citizens for treason, and feeling ran so high that he was removed. His successor was a native of Salem, Mass., whose loyalty to the mother country was such that he gave up large estates in the colonies rather than join the revolutionists. He was connected, both by blood and by marriage, with the Winthrop family. Under his rule the island's full allegiance to England was restored.

Browne was succeeded by Henry Hamilton, during whose administration the town of Hamilton was founded and named for him. This town today is the seat of the island government. It has a population of less than 3,000. It did not become the capital of the islands until the time of Sir James Cockburn, Lord Chief Justice of England and before that one of its most famous lawyers. Cockburn, nearly three quarters of a century ago, made the plea of insanity, which saved the life of Daniel M'Naughten, who shot Sir Robert Pell's secretary.

Group Has More Than 300 Islands

Hamilton is on Main Island, or Bermuda, while St. George, the former capital, is on the island of the same name. There are more than 300 small islands in the Bermuda group, of which only a score are inhabited. The total population of the islands in 1916 was little over 20,000, of whom about one-third were white. Bermuda suffered during the World War by the cessation of the American tourist patronage, which had doubled the entire island population in preceding seasons.

The Bermudas attract visitors because of the mild climate, which knows no frosts, and by their scenic beauty. The evergreen islands are clustered with a great variety of exotic plants, their roadways are "bejeweled and scented" with sweet-smelling flowers, their shores are penetrated by crystalline coral pools, and the waters about are noted for their ever-changing and vivid color.

The islands lie off the coast of North Carolina about as far as Cleveland is from New York, and at about the same latitude as Charleston, Fort Worth, and San Diego. Their exports, before the war, principally onions, potatoes, lily bulbs, tomatoes, and cut flowers, practically all went to New York, which is 677 miles distant.

Juan Bermudez, sailing from Spain to Cuba in 1515, with a cargo of hogs, discovered the islands when a storm blew him to their shores. Apparently he left some of the hogs there, for later visitors found the animals on the island. From him the islands were named, and thus originated the "hog money," coins stamped with a hog on one side and a ship on the other, which still are preserved in various collections.

The islands were settled through the efforts of Sir George Somers, who was shipwrecked on his way to Virginia.

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Prizes for the Inventor

(It is suggested that the following Bulletin may be of service to physics, chemistry, and other science teachers.)

FOR the young man or woman who sighs because there is nothing more to invent, Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, has an encouraging message.

In a communication to The National Geographic Society he says that many of the best prizes of invention are yet to be won, and surveys the fields where these opportunities lie, as follows:

It is interesting and instructive to look back over the various changes that have occurred and trace the evolution of the present from the past. By projecting these lines of advance into the future, you can forecast the future, to a certain extent, and recognize some of the fields of usefulness that are opening up for the young men of today.

We have one line of advance from candles and oil lamps to gas, and from gas to electricity; and we can recognize many other threads of advance all converging upon electricity. We produce heat and light by electricity; we transmit intelligence by the telegraph and telephone, and we use electricity as a motive power. In fact, we have fairly entered upon an electrical age, and it is obvious that the electrical engineer will be much in demand in the future.

On every hand we see the substitution of machinery and artificial motive power for animal and man power. There will, therefore, be plenty of openings in the future for young, bright mechanical engineers working in this direction.

Price of Fuel Obstacle to Advance

There is, however, one obstacle to further advance, in the increasing price of the fuel necessary to work machinery. Coal and oil are going up and are strictly limited in quantity. We can take coal out of a mine, but we can never put it back. We can draw oil from subterranean reservoirs, but we can never refill them. We are spendthrifts in the matter of fuel and are using our capital for our running expenses.

In relation to coal and oil, the world's annual consumption has become so enormous that we are now actually within measurable distance of the end of the supply. What shall we do when we have no more coal or oil?

Apart from water power (which is strictly limited) and tidal and wave power (which we have not yet learned to utilize), and the employment of the sun's rays directly as a source of power, we have little left, excepting wood, and it takes at least twenty-five years to grow a crop of trees.

There is, however, one other source of fuel supply which may perhaps solve this problem of the future. Alcohol makes a beautiful, clean, and efficient fuel, and, where not intended for consumption by human beings, can be manufactured very cheaply in an indigestible or even poisonous form. Wood alcohol, for example, can be employed as a fuel, and we can make alcohol from sawdust, a waste product of our mills.

Alcohol also can be manufactured from cornstalks, and in fact from almost any vegetable matter capable of fermentation. Our growing crops, and even weeds, can be used. The waste products of our farms are available for this purpose and even the garbage from our cities. We need never fear the exhaustion of our present fuel supplies so long as we can produce an annual crop of alcohol to any extent desired.

Alcohol the Fuel of the Future

The world probably will depend upon alcohol more and more as time goes on, and a great field of usefulness is opening for the engineer who will modify our machinery to enable alcohol to be used as the source of power.

Developments of wireless telegraphy are proceeding with great rapidity, and no man can predict what startling discoveries and applications may appear in the near future. I know of no more promising field of exploration.

Already privacy of communication has been secured by wireless transmitters and receivers "tuned," so to speak, to respond to electrical vibrations of certain frequencies alone. They are sensitive only to electrical impulses of definite wavelength. The principal of sympathetic vibration operating tuned wireless receivers has also been applied to the control of machinery from a distance and the steering of boats without a man on board. The possibilities of development in this direction are practically illimitable, and we shall probably be able to perform at a distance by wireless almost any mechanical operation that can be done at hand.

Still more recently wireless telegraphy has given birth to another new art, and wireless telephony has appeared. Only a short time ago a man in Arlington, Va., at the wireless station there, talked by word of mouth to a man on the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Not only that, but a man in Honolulu overheard the conversation! This achievement surely foreshadows the time when we may be able to talk with a man in any part of the world by telephone and without wires.

(A second Bulletin will relate how Dr. Bell conducts his experiments with problems that have yet to be solved.)

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The Mysteries of the Pacific

HOW did the flightless birds of New Zealand originate?

What is the nearest living relative to the extinct dodo of Samoa?

What is the import of the same species of fresh-water fish in two rivers situated on opposite sides of the Pacific?

Did a land-mass fly out of what is now the Pacific Ocean and form the moon before this planet was cooled?

These are just a few of the many lines of inquiry to which science will turn in the Pacific Ocean with the adjustment of the many colonial questions affecting New Guinea, the Carolines, the Marshall Islands, and the numerous other holdings in this least-known region in the world.

Leopold G. Blackman, the writer of a communication to The National Geographic Society, upon which this bulletin is based, continues:

Much valuable material also will be collected to assist in a better understanding of the growth of our own civilization from elemental savagery, for it is reasonable to suppose that the primitive wants of man in different ages and regions have called forth similar expedients to satisfy them.

Racial Types Subject of Study

Other important objects of investigation for the ethnologist will touch the various racial types into which the Pacific islanders are divided. Of these, three are generally recognized, of whom the Papuans and Polynesians appear to show the widest divergences, with the Micronesians occupying the intermediate ground and possessing affinities of race, language, and custom within the other two. The presence of two distinct races of man in the Pacific suggests two periods and sources of immigration and adds difficulty to an already perplexing question, for the demarkation between the divisions of the races is by no means well defined, but is complicated by the admixture of many other races of both oriental and occidental origin.

The Papuans may be generally said to inhabit New Guinea, the Solomons, New Caledonia, and Fiji. Their most obvious characteristics may be briefly summed up by stating that they are irreligious, democratic, quarrelsome, cannibalistic, and hostile to strangers. They possess no hereditary chiefs, paint or scar the body rather than wear clothes, cook in earthern pots, chew betel, and their speech is broken up into a number of apparently irreconcilable dialects. The Papuans are the least attractive of any Pacific islanders, and the island groups which they occupy are among the least known of the Pacific and have been for many generations shunned by mariners and associated with everything that is of evil repute in the record of the ocean.

These "Savages" More Highly Civilized

The Polynesians in many attributes are greatly at variance with the Papuan islanders. They possess, generally speaking, an elaborate religious system, an established order of hereditary chiefs, and well-defined social castes. They are friendly to strangers, fond of dress, expert manufacturers of Kapa cloth, and intrepid seamen and navigators. They tattoo instead of scar the body, seldom practice cannibalism, cook in earthen ovens instead of in earthen pots, drink awa, and possess a common language understandable throughout New Zealand, Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti, and the Paumotu Islands.

Of all the Pacific races the greatest interest attaches to the Polynesian islanders, but unfortunately it is these people whose primitive customs and racial types have been most broken up by modern intercourse.

The Malayo-Polynesian language possesses the distinction of being spoken by indigenes over the widest area of any language of the world, for it embraces two great oceans and extends from the island continent of Madagascar to the isolated islet of Rapanui.

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GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

The Tower of London

THE Tower of London recently was the object of public attention, when the suggestion was made that William Hohenzollern be confined there pending trial, if the Allied nations found it feasible to hold him to account for the terrible consequences of the war he helped to bring about.

Palace and prison, once noted also for its menagerie and its pageantry, birthplace and death-house of monarchs, scene of hairbreadth escapes and reputed hidden treasure, ghastly in its memories of tortures and killings and sacred for its martyrs, the Tower of London amply warrants description as the "most ancient and most poetic pile in Europe."

William the Conqueror gave London a charter, but built the White Tower to show the people how little that charter might mean. Like the English Constitution, the rambling London Tower of today is a product of centuries; and not one, but many towers, now are scattered over some thirteen acres. The site had been a fortress since Roman times.

To the Middle Tower Elizabeth came back a queen five years after her jealous half-sister, Mary, had kept her there a prisoner. The hump-backed Richard III hired three assassins to murder his nephews in Bloody Tower.

Lady Jane Grey Beheaded There

Lady Jane Grey, she who "had the birth of a princess, the life of a saint, and the death of a malefactor," was beheaded in London Tower. Henry VIII waited to hear a gun fired from White Tower, signal of the execution of Anne Boleyn, so he might marry Jane Seymour the next day. Henry's minister, Thomas Cromwell, sent hosts of enemies to London Tower to be butchered until he helped select Anne of Cleves for his much-married monarch, but when Henry saw this prospective bride he pronounced her "a Flanders mare," and off went Cromwell's head with the rest.

Relieving such stories of royal cruelty are the immortal "last words" of the brave men and women who laid their heads on the axeman's block.

"God forbid the King shall use any more such mercy to my friends," laughed Sir Thomes More when told that Henry VIII had "mercifully" consented to let him be beheaded instead of hanged, and to the executioner, as he moved his beard aside, "Pity that should be cut that has not committed treason."

The Countess of Salisbury proudly refused to lay her head on the block because she had committed no wrong; "so that," says an observer, apologizing for the executioner, "he was constrained to fetch it off slovenly."

"If you strike me twice, I cannot promise you not to stir," warned Monmouth. Asked to raise his head a bit, Algernon Sidney retorted, "Not until the general resurrection; strike on." "Peter," inquired Sir Walter Raleigh, to keep up the spirits of his attendant, "Dost thou know of any plaster to set a man's head on again when it was cut off?"

How Raleigh Capitalized His Prison Term

Consigned to the Tower for some thirteen years, Sir Walter set a fashion which made a salon out of the palace-prison. While he was not attending his garden and distilling essence from plants, he wrote his quaint "History of the World"; and there, too, William Penn wrote "No Cross, No Crown."

About the main entrance to the Tower was a menagerie until a hundred years or so ago. It owed its establishment to the fact that Frederick II of Germany sent Henry III of England several panthers and Henry did not know what else to do with them. Later James I, who liked bear baiting, added those animals to the zoo.

The warders, known as "beef-eaters," probably because they once were fed on rations of meat, form one of the curiosities for London visitors. Like the Swiss bodyguard of the Pope, they keep their ancient costumes, which are of the picturesque Tudor period, undisturbed by currents of modern fashion.

Just before midnight the head warder and the porter, carrying a bunch of huge keys, go to the guard-room, summon "the escort of the keys," made up of "beef-eaters," and then proceed ceremoniously to lock the great outer gate. The password is given formally to sentries as the procession passes, and in conclusion the detail salutes the keys as the porter cries, "God preserve the King."

Tried to Steal the Royal Jewels

Like the Bastile, London Tower has been stormed. Desperate efforts have been made to steal the royal relics kept there, which include the ancient "anointing spoon" and Queen Elizabeth's salt-cellar. One famous effort, in which a Colonel Blood, disguised as a clergyman, nearly made away with the bejeweled crown, is thought by some to have been inspired by Charles II because he needed the money the rare gems would bring.

One of the most spectacular incidents connected with the Tower was the escape of two priests by a ruse that would have done credit to Monte Cristo. One of them, having been strung up by the hands for days and then put in a rack, in a futile effort to make him deny his faith, wrote in orange juice to friends outside for a light rope with a weight at one end and by that means climbed to a boat awaiting him below.

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Geneva: Capital of the League of Nations

GENEVA, capital of the League of Nations, is described in a communication by Ralph A. Graves to the National Geographic Society, as follows:

Seated serenely on both banks of the River Rhone, where it leaves the limpid waters of Lake Geneva as a placid stream, in contrast to the muddy turbulence of its ingress at the other end of the lake, Geneva is not the metropolis of the miniature Republic of Switzerland, for Zurich surpasses it in population by 50 per cent and Bern is the capital. But it is doubtful whether before the World War any other city of its size was visited annually by as many tourists, for it was the main gateway into the world-famous "playground of Europe."

Although its recorded history goes back beyond the Christian era, to the time when Julius Cæsar, in his Commentaries on his first expedition into Gaul, mentions it as a stronghold of the Allobroges, its growth has been phenomenal only in its leisureliness. Today, after twenty centuries, it has less than one-third the population of the century-old capital of the United States.

The city enjoys the distinction of being the birthplace of the International Red Cross, but also has some dark chapters in its past—the religious excesses of the Reformation, when the persecuted became the persecutors.

Rousseau, of whom Napoleon said, "Without him, France would not have had her Revolution"; and the patriot Bonivard, whose trials Byron immortalized as the Prisoner of Chillon, were Genevans. Farel, the Billy Sunday of his day, who could not be made to desist from preaching, even though the women of his congregation dragged him up and down the aisle of the church by his beard, made the lake city his headquarters during his ascendancy. And John Calvin, "who found Geneva a bear garden and left it a docile school of piety," was virtual dictator here for a quarter of a century.

The "Prisoner of Chillon"

One of the most picturesque figures in the history of Geneva during this period was Francois de Bonivard, who, when his victorious friends rushed into his dungeon at Chillon crying, "Bonivard, you are free!" responded with the query, "And Geneva?" Upon being assured that his city was also saved, he went home rejoicing.

By one of those curious chances upon which hinge events of monumental moment, the young French philosopher, John Calvin, a native of Picardy, passed through Geneva one evening on his way to Strassburg. He had intended spending only one night; but Farel, hearing of his arrival, rushed to him and, with the fiery impetuosity which characterized every act of his life, convinced Calvin that it was his duty to remain and assist in the organization of a theocratic State.

The austerity of the Calvin code presents many amusing phases to the modern reader. For example, a hairdresser was imprisoned because he made one of his clients too beautiful. Any man who swore "without necessity" was required to take off his hat, "kneel down in the place of his offense, clasp his hands, and kiss the earth." The wearing of silk or embroidered hose was prohibited; likewise the adornment of one's person with chains of silver or gold, and eating or drinking in taverns outside of the city. Hosts and hostesses were enjoined to warn their guests to be in their own lodgings "after the trumpet sound to the watch or the ringing of the bell" (nine o'clock at night).

When Genevans Were Good Samaritans

There is no more beautiful picture of Christian charity than the scene in this city when, on August 30, 1572, merchants of Lyons brought news of the massacre of the Huguenots on St. Bartholomew's Day. Pastors were dispatched to the frontiers to meet the fugitives who were reported to be on their way to this asylum, and the venerable Theodore de Bèze, who had succeeded Calvin as the spiritual head of the Council, directed the whole population to fast and pray for the sufferers.

Geneva has set aside as a site for the permanent home of the League of Nations a beautiful wooded park bordering on the lake, some five miles from the center of the city. Behind the park tower the snow-clad Jura Mountains. While there are many villages in the vicinity of the park which are suitable for offices and for quarters of the delegates and their secretarial staffs, the capitol building itself must be built.

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Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)
General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

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A PLEA FOR VISUAL INSTRUCTION

ONE of the advocates of the movement for visual education is P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education. In an article written for the "Normal Instructor and Primary Plans," Dr. Claxton relates his early experiences as a teacher in methods of visual instruction. Then there were few aids available for such teaching, and his ingenuity was taxed to find material. After telling of some of the expedients to which he resorted, he continues:

"The first effort was through pictures cut from magazines, illustrated papers, railroad folders, and other illustrated advertising circulars and booklets. The teacher who is willing to give the necessary time and energy to it can soon have a valuable collection of such pictures, properly mounted and numbered and catalogued for ready use. The children will give valuable help in making the collection. A teacher working under my directions made a collection of more than a thousand good and suitable pictures illustrating almost every important phase of the geography of North Carolina. The collection was in constant use and added interest and reality to every lesson on the geography and history of the State.

"If I could have had then the wealth of material now available in cheap but good prints of great pictures, in hundreds of thousands of stereopticon slides and in millions of feet of moving-picture films, illustrating all possible subjects, I would have been very happy. Were I a superintendent of schools or a member of a school board now, I should equip every school under my direction with all kinds of visual-instruction material, and would expect teachers to make constant use of it. I should make a liberal estimate for such material in every annual budget, so that the supply might be constantly renewed by the addition of the newest and best. As Commissioner of Education, I hope I may be able to do something for the promotion of the right use of such material."

AN EXPLANATION

The Geographic News Bulletins may be used as collateral reading in History, Geography, and Current Events classes. Some of them will be of use in Literature and Science courses.

They are intended to aid the teacher in introducing the pupil to the Geography and History of places at that crucial moment when the pupil's interest in those places has been aroused.

They are designed to meet the urgent demand for complete accounts of peoples and places which no text-book possibly can give.

They seek to be, first of all, accurate, and, after that, readable, that they may stimulate interest in the subjects treated.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Bulletins are furnished by The National Geographic Society, Washington, D. C.

Teachers may apply individually for them; principals may apply for copies for teachers (not for individual pupils at present) and for their school libraries. Superintendents desiring copies for their entire teaching staff should correspond with the Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C., as to methods of sending in quantities.

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Spalato: A City Built in a Palace

ON THE Dalmatian coast of the Adriatic is Trau, where landing of United States marines to help preserve order has given rise to wide-spread discussion concerning how much service of that kind this country will be called upon to perform if it joins the League of Nations.

Near Trau, your map will show, is Spalato, which raised a curious problem at the Peace Conference at Paris. That problem, in brief, was this:

If you build a city in a man's house, and the city grows and grows until it outgrows the house, in fact, does the city belong to the nation which is heir of the man who built the house or to the nation of the city that centers in the house?

Sounds like a combination conundrum of the "House That Jack Built" and the moot priority of egg or chicken, but it is an exact statement of the case of Spalato, contended for by Jugo-Slavs and Italians.

The House That an Emperor Built

Of course, Spalato is unique, first of all, for being a city founded and still largely contained in a house—in the palace that Diocletian built when he voluntarily abdicated as Roman emperor early in the fourth century. He betook himself, not to Elba or some reluctant Holland, but to a beauty spot in his own domain, which he chose for the site of a palace covering nearly ten acres—more than twice the ground area of the United States Capitol Building.

Diocles of Dioclea was born near Salona, three miles from Spalato. So after he made a success in life, which consisted in those days of getting a crown rather than a fortune, he returned to the place of his humble birth, as many an American millionaire has done, and became the citizen that made his home town famous.

Three centuries after Diocletian died, and his palace in the meantime had been converted into a cloth factory and then deserted, Salona was overrun successively by Huns, Goths, and Avars. The inhabitants fled to the islands along the Dalmatian coast, and after the storms of invasion blew over "dug into" the Gargantuan palace and thus founded Spalato.

Thousands of Spalato citizens today live and keep shop among the chapels and suites, the vestibules and festal halls of the palace ruins. Bright green shutters flare out like post-impressionistic daubs of gaudy color against the mellowed tints of ancient stone columns and granite pillars. Crumbling walls that surrounded the city have been built into those dwellings and stores that cluster along both sides of the old boundary.

"City of the Dead," but Very Much Alive

Spalato has been called a city of the dead. But it is intensely alive, tingling with memories and pulsating with the business bustle of what was, before the war, the most important trade center of the Dalmatian coast. The people then offered contrasts as vivid as the buildings. Turban and fez, cap and hat, gave a hint of many types. The considerable element of resident population is Serbo-Croatian.

Incongruous, but picturesque, is this modern moving picture projected among the ruins of what has been called the "vastest and noblest dwelling which ever arose at the bidding of a single man." Remembered chiefly as a despot and persecutor, Diocletian's reign was noteworthy for some governmental experiments usually considered ultra-modern. He adopted price-fixing for needful commodities, abolished inheritance taxes, swung a mighty imperial stick against trusts and graft, and acted as a sort of sublimated trade-booster for the empire that he evolved from a republic.

Had Diocletian done nothing else, posterity would be grateful for his country home. Its four noble gates (two still standing), its cathedral (once the mausoleum), its temple of Jupiter (supposed to have been a private chapel), are priceless treasures for the student of architecture. The palace discloses the earliest known example of arches planted directly on the capitals of the columns. In a museum along the eastern wall is a collection of prized relics, inscriptions, sculptures, fragments of vases, glass, terra cotta, metals, and gems recovered during years of persevering excavation, though most of them came from Salona and not from the palace.

Salona was a principal port in Roman times, as Spalato is in the twentieth century. Before the war Austrian Lloyd steamers stopped there, railroads brought in many tourists, and the city did a thriving trade in wines and oils. Its location, between the Brazza and Salona gulfs, is advantageous. Its population is about 30,000.

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When Nature Makes War

THE recent floods that all but laid waste Corpus Christi, Texas, remind us that our entire seaboard is one of Nature's greatest battlegrounds between the forces of the deep and the fortified areas of the land, according to John Oliver La Gorce, who has contributed a communication to the National Geographic Society upon which the following bulletin is based:

The war-time operations of the sea assassins of Prussia on our eastern coast in a futile effort to stay the mighty blow America struck against despotism brought into bold relief that ever-changing stretch of coast-line we so proudly call our Atlantic seaboard.

As the crow flies, it is some sixteen hundred miles from the out-harbor waters of Eastport, Maine, to the key-guarded shallows of Cards Sound, Florida; but as the shore stretches southward, miles lengthen into leagues, rocky citadels give way to shifting sands, and both yield place to coral reefs.

The Wind a Shifting Ally

He who would follow the foreshore from northern Campobello Island to southern Largo Key has a journey that, while taxing his legs, would certainly stir his soul, for in doing so he would traverse the length of a battle-front in the most ancient, the most far-flung, the most unremitting, uncompromising war ever staged between puissant forces of nature—the war between land and water, with the wind as a shifting ally.

Let us endeavor to get a bird's-eye view of the great conflict that started long before man appeared upon the face of the earth, and which can only end long after the planet is no longer fit for his habitation.

Every coast-line on the globe, be it that of a great continent or a tiny island, is a theater of Nature's struggle, in which the warring forces are marshaled; every rainstorm is a vast squadron of airplanes of the sea, a veritable Neptune's Escadrille, sweeping the shock troops across the No Man's Land of cliff, beach, and reef, onward to the very heart of the land forces' strongholds, the mountains, where they wheel about and launch a rear attack with swollen torrent, hail, and ice.

Drop of Water a Soldier of the Sea

Each drop of water is indeed a soldier of the sea, doing its small part, as it descends with force, in conquering the hillside, and its drum-fire is to be reckoned with, because each inch of rain brings down one hundred and thirteen tons of water upon every acre of terrain upon which it falls.

As the tiny soldiers concentrate first in rivulet regiments, then into mountain-torrent divisions, and finally into big-river armies, they madly charge the rocks and grind them to dust by attrition and carry the captive sands ever onward to the sea.

The vast forces of the sea which are sent out in air fleets beggar belief. The rainfall of the United States perhaps averages 30 inches a year. On that basis every acre of ground is attacked by three thousand tons of water. And the water armies, marching back to the sea as rivers, take along a hostage of well-nigh unbelievable proportions, since it has been estimated that they carry some twenty-five billion tons of captive material with them.

The prisoners of the Mississippi might be used for an example because their aggregate volume is greater every year than the total amount of material removed from the Panama Canal from the hour de Lesseps turned the first sod to the glorious day Goethals pronounced it a finished undertaking, or approximately 506,000,000 tons!

It often happens, however, that the seemingly vanquished turn on their captors just as they come down to the dead-line of No Man's Land and succeed in saving themselves from the prison camps of the sea bottom.

Deltas Absent in American Rivers

In such cases they form themselves into river deltas, like those of the Mississippi, the Po, the Euphrates, and the Ganges, although our own seaboard captives are not so fortunate, since deltas are conspicuously absent from the river mouths of the North American Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

In the attacks of the sea upon the land via the air, it is the constant endeavor of the water forces to bring the whole dry-land area under its liquid fist. If the sea ever succeeded in its program of world dominion, which includes dragging every mountain down and filling up every ocean trench with material graded from the land in a leveling process, there would be a universal ocean nearly two miles deep over the face of the globe.

Yet more to the immediate point of this discussion is the frontal attack of the sea against the land. With wave and tide and wind and undertow, with coastwise current and ground swell, the sea pounds perpetually at the gates of the land fortifications.

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The Germany That Was: A Political Crazy Quilt

TO UNDERSTAND the reorganization of Germany and the various elements it comprises, one must picture the amazingly complicated geographic pattern that constituted the German Empire before the armistice of November 11, 1918.

The German Empire resembled nothing so much as a political crazy-quilt, with patches of varying sizes and shapes, belonging to kingdoms, grand duchies, principalities, duchies, and other units.

The average student of history knows that the German Empire was composed of 25 separate kingdoms, grand duchies, duchies, principalities, imperial lands, and free towns, but in order to appreciate fully the problem of reconstituting the German nation, it is necessary to remember that these 25 distinct governments did not by any means represent only 25 homogeneous and contiguous States. Many of the States are scattered throughout the dominions in detached fragments.

The Kingdom of Prussia, which both in area and in population was larger than all the other 24 States combined, extended in a huge semicircle from the French border of Lorraine on the southwest to the Baltic provinces of Russia on the northeast, besides owning detached areas "peppered" over the other States. For an analogy in America it would be necessary to conceive of the State of New York embracing Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Michigan, Illinois, parts of Indiana and Ohio, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, a portion of Pennsylvania, and all the New England States. Then imagine our Empire State also owning and governing one or two counties in North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

In the same way, the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg was divided into three parts, as if Iowa, a dozen counties in New Mexico, and half a dozen counties in Michigan were under one governor.

One State Split by Hundred-mile Wedge

Then there was Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with three-fourths of its territory on the east side of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and the remaining fourth on the northwest side, the two parts being separated by a distance of nearly 100 miles.

The Grand Duchy of Hesse was divided into two nearly equal parts by a narrow "isthmus" of Prussian territory: Bavaria lay seven-eighths to the east of Hesse and Baden and one-eighth to the west; Wurttemberg was a fairly-homogeneous kingdom, surrounded by Baden and Bavaria, but in the south it was pierced by a detached piece of Prussian land resembling a boomerang in shape.

In the heart of the Empire (the Empire that was) was an amazing tangle of principalities known as the Thuringian States; and here, too, Prussia possessed several large fragments of territory.

Without enumerating the inconsequential fragments of Prussian lands dotted here and there in other States, Prussia was divided into fourteen provinces—East Prussia, West Prussia, Berlin, Brandenburg, Pomerania, Posen, Silesia, Saxony (not the Kingdom of Saxony), Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, Westphalia, Hesse-Nassau, Rhine (Rheinprovinz), and Hohenzollern.

Fourteen States Smaller Than Rhode Island

Fourteen of the 25 States of the Empire had an area less than that of our smallest State, Rhode Island, yet none of them—not even the three Free City States of Bremen, Lubeck, and Hamburg—was as small as the District of Columbia.

With the exception of Prussia, which lacked 12,000 square miles of being as large as Montana, and of Bavaria, which is about the size of South Carolina, none of the other German States was as large as Massachusetts.

With the exception of the three free cities, the State having the densest population was the Kingdom of Saxony, with more than 829 persons to the square mile. For the entire Empire the density of population was nearly ten times as great as that of the United States.

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Jugo-Slavia Suggests One Period of American History

IN THE following bulletin, based on a communication to the National Geographic Society, the problem of organization facing the new kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (Jugo-Slavia) is compared to that confronting the thirteen American States after the Revolution and before the Constitution was adopted.

To unite all the Jugo-Slavs has long been the aspiration of leaders among the Croats and Slavonians as well as those in the Kingdom of Serbia. They wished to include the Bosnians, Helvats, Croats, Slavonians, Dalmatians, and Slovenes, former Austro-Hungarian, or still earlier Turkish, subjects, as well as the independent South Slavic State of Montenegro.

The World War has extended this desire, except that it no longer includes Bulgaria. One obstacle to federal union is difference of church communion. Most of the Jugo-Slavs are Eastern Orthodox; the remainder, except those who are Moslems, Roman Catholic. Obligations to Islam rest lightly on the peninsular Moslems and they will eventually join one or the other church.

Lack Experience in Self-government

A chief obstacle to federal union is inexperience in self-government on the part of the several groups. Except the Montenegrins and the Serbians in the larger part of royal Serbia, all the groups have been under the blighting domination of alternating foreign masters—mainly Turks, Austrians, and Magyars—since the Middle Ages. The federal system is of all systems the most difficult and complex, requiring the largest degree not only of skill, but of self-adjustment and self-control. Yet upon such a Ship of State these Slavic landsmen would embark as officers and crew in a stormy sea.

To the majority of these people the idea of union is novel, until recently entertained only by some score of dreamers, who, while Turkish or Austro-Hungarian subjects themselves, hardly believed in its possibility of realization. Nor do all the groups equally desire union, even now. The Slovenes, for example, are not overenthusiastic for it. In some respects the situation is analogous to that of the thirteen American States after the Revolution and before the adoption of the Constitution.

Strong Bonds of Race and Tongue

Powerful factors exist favorable to co-operation. The peoples are racially one, confronted everywhere by foreigners. Despite minor local differences, they possess in the Serbian a language intelligible to all, though in less degree to the Slovene, spoken by the great majority—the literary language of Croat, Bosnian, Helvat, Slavonian, Serbian, and in part of the Dalmatian. Bonds of race and language are strong.

There is practical absence of inherited animosities. The fact is recognized that whoever of them fought in the Austro-Hungarian ranks did so under military compulsion.

The one compelling factor is the consciousness that unless united the political existence of any of them is most insecure.

In the attempt of the Jugo-Slavs to rule themselves in the only possible way, they are entitled to the sympathy and patience of all who believe in self-government by the people.

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The Making of Steel

IN VIEW of the nation-wide attention directed toward the strike of steel workers, the National Geographic Society issued a bulletin, based on a communication concerning the making of steel, which follows:

The story of Bessemer steel is one of the fascinating chronicles of the industrial world. It seems to have been one of those cases where two men working in different countries, each without knowledge of what the other was doing, reached the same conclusion about the same time. Both were granted American patents; but, upon application for renewal, the Patent Office held Kelly to be the inventor. The world, however, gives the credit to Bessemer, and the process is known as the Bessemer process.

Kelly was a maker of old-fashioned cooking pots and kettles. It is related that one day he was sitting in front of his furnace and observed a point of incandescence where there was no charcoal—only the metal and the air. This led him to contend that air alone would burn out the impurities from molten iron. When he developed his tilting converter, his engineer blew such a tremendous blast through the first charge that iron and all went up as sparks, to his discomfiture and the crowd's amusement. He finally succeeded in getting the amount of air regulated and poured out of his converter the first Bessemer steel. People said Kelly would soon be burning ice. Since his old converter was first used, billions of dollars' worth of steel has flowed out of the world's converters.

Overcame Two Baffling Problems

Both Kelly and Bessemer were baffled by the problem of regulating the supply of air so that it would not burn out all the carbon, a little of which is essential to steel. Furthermore, their products frequently proved to be brittle, owing to the fact that the molten metal absorbed oxygen from the air blast. The first difficulty was solved eventually by the expedient of burning out practically all the carbon, then adding exactly the amount required for the specific quality of steel desired. The second difficulty was overcome through the addition of manganese to take care of the hurtful oxygen. The latter suggestion was the contribution of Robert F. Mushet, a Scotch steel-maker. Goransson, a Swedish ironmaster, had previously achieved the same results by using a pig-iron initially rich in manganese. Thereafter underdone and overdone steel disappeared.

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Giant Egg of Brick and Steel

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General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

CONTENTS FOR WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 20, 1919

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2. When Nature Makes War.
3. The Germany That Was: A Political Crazy-Quilt.
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A PLEA FOR VISUAL INSTRUCTION

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"The first effort was through pictures cut from magazines, illustrated papers, railroad folders, and other illustrated advertising circulars and booklets. The teacher who is willing to give the necessary time and energy to it can soon have a valuable collection of such pictures, properly mounted and numbered and catalogued for ready use. The children will give valuable help in making the collection. A teacher working under my directions made a collection of more than a thousand good and suitable pictures illustrating almost every important phase of the geography of North Carolina. The collection was in constant use and added interest and reality to every lesson on the geography and history of the State.

"If I could have had then the wealth of material now available in cheap but good prints of great pictures, in hundreds of thousands of stereopticon slides and in millions of feet of moving-picture films, illustrating all possible subjects, I would have been very happy. Were I a superintendent of schools or a member of a school board now, I should equip every school under my direction with all kinds of visual-instruction material, and would expect teachers to make constant use of it. I should make a liberal estimate for such material in every annual budget, so that the supply might be constantly renewed by the addition of the newest and best. As Commissioner of Education, I hope I may be able to do something for the promotion of the right use of such material."

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Spalato: A City Built in a Palace

ON THE Dalmatian coast of the Adriatic is Trau, where landing of United States marines to help preserve order has given rise to wide-spread discussion concerning how much service of that kind this country will be called upon to perform if it joins the League of Nations.

Near Trau, your map will show, is Spalato, which raised a curious problem at the Peace Conference at Paris. That problem, in brief, was this:

If you build a city in a man's house, and the city grows and grows until it outgrows the house, in fact, does the city belong to the nation which is heir of the man who built the house or to the nation of the city that centers in the house?

Sounds like a combination conundrum of the "House That Jack Built" and the moot priority of egg or chicken, but it is an exact statement of the case of Spalato, contended for by Jugo-Slavs and Italians.

The House That an Emperor Built

Of course, Spalato is unique, first of all, for being a city founded and still largely contained in a house—in the palace that Diocletian built when he voluntarily abdicated as Roman emperor early in the fourth century. He betook himself, not to Elba or some reluctant Holland, but to a beauty spot in his own domain, which he chose for the site of a palace covering nearly ten acres—more than twice the ground area of the United States Capitol Building.

Diocles of Dioclea was born near Salona, three miles from Spalato. So after he made a success in life, which consisted in those days of getting a crown rather than a fortune, he returned to the place of his humble birth, as many an American millionaire has done, and became the citizen that made his home town famous.

Three centuries after Diocletian died, and his palace in the meantime had been converted into a cloth factory and then deserted, Salona was overrun successively by Huns, Goths, and Avars. The inhabitants fled to the islands along the Dalmatian coast, and after the storms of invasion blew over "dug into" the Gargantuan palace and thus founded Spalato.

Thousands of Spalato citizens today live and keep shop among the chapels and suites, the vestibules and festal halls of the palace ruins. Bright green shutters flare out like post-impressionistic daubs of gaudy color against the mellowed tints of ancient stone columns and granite pillars. Crumbling walls that surrounded the city have been built into those dwellings and stores that cluster along both sides of the old boundary.

"City of the Dead," but Very Much Alive

Spalato has been called a city of the dead. But it is intensely alive, tingling with memories and pulsating with the business bustle of what was, before the war, the most important trade center of the Dalmatian coast. The people then offered contrasts as vivid as the buildings. Turban and fez, cap and hat, gave a hint of many types. The considerable element of resident population is Serbo-Croatian.

Incongruous, but picturesque, is this modern moving picture projected among the ruins of what has been called the "vastest and noblest dwelling which ever arose at the bidding of a single man." Remembered chiefly as a despot and persecutor, Diocletian's reign was noteworthy for some governmental experiments usually considered ultra-modern. He adopted price-fixing for needful commodities, abolished inheritance taxes, swung a mighty imperial stick against trusts and graft, and acted as a sort of sublimated trade-booster for the empire that he evolved from a republic.

Had Diocletian done nothing else, posterity would be grateful for his country home. Its four noble gates (two still standing), its cathedral (once the mausoleum), its temple of Jupiter (supposed to have been a private chapel), are priceless treasures for the student of architecture. The palace discloses the earliest known example of arches planted directly on the capitals of the columns. In a museum along the eastern wall is a collection of prized relics, inscriptions, sculptures, fragments of vases, glass, terra cotta, metals, and gems recovered during years of persevering excavation, though most of them came from Salona and not from the palace.

Salona was a principal port in Roman times, as Spalato is in the twentieth century. Before the war Austrian Lloyd steamers stopped there, railroads brought in many tourists, and the city did a thriving trade in wines and oils. Its location, between the Brazza and Salona gulfs, is advantageous. Its population is about 30,000.

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When Nature Makes War

THE recent floods that all but laid waste Corpus Christi, Texas, remind us that our entire seaboard is one of Nature's greatest battlegrounds between the forces of the deep and the fortified areas of the land, according to John Oliver La Gorce, who has contributed a communication to the National Geographic Society upon which the following bulletin is based:

The war-time operations of the sea assassins of Prussia on our eastern coast in a futile effort to stay the mighty blow America struck against despotism brought into bold relief that ever-changing stretch of coast-line we so proudly call our Atlantic seaboard.

As the crow flies, it is some sixteen hundred miles from the out-harbor waters of Eastport, Maine, to the key-guarded shallows of Cards Sound, Florida; but as the shore stretches southward, miles lengthen into leagues, rocky citadels give way to shifting sands, and both yield place to coral reefs.

The Wind a Shifting Ally

He who would follow the foreshore from northern Campobello Island to southern Largo Key has a journey that, while taxing his legs, would certainly stir his soul, for in doing so he would traverse the length of a battle-front in the most ancient, the most far-flung, the most unremitting, uncompromising war ever staged between puissant forces of nature—the war between land and water, with the wind as a shifting ally.

Let us endeavor to get a bird's-eye view of the great conflict that started long before man appeared upon the face of the earth, and which can only end long after the planet is no longer fit for his habitation.

Every coast-line on the globe, be it that of a great continent or a tiny island, is a theater of Nature's struggle, in which the warring forces are marshaled; every rainstorm is a vast squadron of airplanes of the sea, a veritable Neptune's Escadrille, sweeping the shock troops across the No Man's Land of cliff, beach, and reef, onward to the very heart of the land forces' strongholds, the mountains, where they wheel about and launch a rear attack with swollen torrent, hail, and ice.

Drop of Water a Soldier of the Sea

Each drop of water is indeed a soldier of the sea, doing its small part, as it descends with force, in conquering the hillside, and its drum-fire is to be reckoned with, because each inch of rain brings down one hundred and thirteen tons of water upon every acre of terrain upon which it falls.

As the tiny soldiers concentrate first in rivulet regiments, then into mountain-torrent divisions, and finally into big-river armies, they madly charge the rocks and grind them to dust by attrition and carry the captive sands ever onward to the sea.

The vast forces of the sea which are sent out in air fleets beggar belief. The rainfall of the United States perhaps averages 30 inches a year. On that basis every acre of ground is attacked by three thousand tons of water. And the water armies, marching back to the sea as rivers, take along a hostage of well-nigh unbelievable proportions, since it has been estimated that they carry some twenty-five billion tons of captive material with them.

The prisoners of the Mississippi might be used for an example because their aggregate volume is greater every year than the total amount of material removed from the Panama Canal from the hour de Lesseps turned the first sod to the glorious day Goethals pronounced it a finished undertaking, or approximately 506,000,000 tons!

It often happens, however, that the seemingly vanquished turn on their captors just as they come down to the dead-line of No Man's Land and succeed in saving themselves from the prison camps of the sea bottom.

Deltas Absent in American Rivers

In such cases they form themselves into river deltas, like those of the Mississippi, the Po, the Euphrates, and the Ganges, although our own seaboard captives are not so fortunate, since deltas are conspicuously absent from the river mouths of the North American Atlantic and Pacific coasts.

In the attacks of the sea upon the land via the air, it is the constant endeavor of the water forces to bring the whole dry-land area under its liquid fist. If the sea ever succeeded in its program of world dominion, which includes dragging every mountain down and filling up every ocean trench with material graded from the land in a leveling process, there would be a universal ocean nearly two miles deep over the face of the globe.

Yet more to the immediate point of this discussion is the frontal attack of the sea against the land. With wave and tide and wind and undertow, with coastwise current and ground swell, the sea pounds perpetually at the gates of the land fortifications.

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The Germany That Was: A Political Crazy Quilt

TO UNDERSTAND the reorganization of Germany and the various elements it comprises, one must picture the amazingly complicated geographic pattern that constituted the German Empire before the armistice of November 11, 1918.

The German Empire resembled nothing so much as a political crazy-quilt, with patches of varying sizes and shapes, belonging to kingdoms, grand duchies, principalities, duchies, and other units.

The average student of history knows that the German Empire was composed of 25 separate kingdoms, grand duchies, duchies, principalities, imperial lands, and free towns, but in order to appreciate fully the problem of reconstituting the German nation, it is necessary to remember that these 25 distinct governments did not by any means represent only 25 homogeneous and contiguous States. Many of the States are scattered throughout the dominions in detached fragments.

The Kingdom of Prussia, which both in area and in population was larger than all the other 24 States combined, extended in a huge semicircle from the French border of Lorraine on the southwest to the Baltic provinces of Russia on the northeast, besides owning detached areas "peppered" over the other States. For an analogy in America it would be necessary to conceive of the State of New York embracing Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Missouri, Michigan, Illinois, parts of Indiana and Ohio, Virginia, Maryland, New Jersey, Delaware, a portion of Pennsylvania, and all the New England States. Then imagine our Empire State also owning and governing one or two counties in North Carolina, Florida, Alabama, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

In the same way, the Grand Duchy of Oldenburg was divided into three parts, as if Iowa, a dozen counties in New Mexico, and half a dozen counties in Michigan were under one governor.

One State Split by Hundred-mile Wedge

Then there was Mecklenburg-Strelitz, with three-fourths of its territory on the east side of Mecklenburg-Schwerin and the remaining fourth on the northwest side, the two parts being separated by a distance of nearly 100 miles.

The Grand Duchy of Hesse was divided into two nearly equal parts by a narrow "isthmus" of Prussian territory: Bavaria lay seven-eighths to the east of Hesse and Baden and one-eighth to the west; Wurttemberg was a fairly-homogeneous kingdom, surrounded by Baden and Bavaria, but in the south it was pierced by a detached piece of Prussian land resembling a boomerang in shape.

In the heart of the Empire (the Empire that was) was an amazing tangle of principalities known as the Thuringian States; and here, too, Prussia possessed several large fragments of territory.

Without enumerating the inconsequential fragments of Prussian lands dotted here and there in other States, Prussia was divided into fourteen provinces—East Prussia, West Prussia, Berlin, Brandenburg, Pomerania, Posen, Silesia, Saxony (not the Kingdom of Saxony), Schleswig-Holstein, Hanover, Westphalia, Hesse-Nassau, Rhine (Rheinprovinz), and Hohenzollern.

Fourteen States Smaller Than Rhode Island

Fourteen of the 25 States of the Empire had an area less than that of our smallest State, Rhode Island, yet none of them—not even the three Free City States of Bremen, Lubeck, and Hamburg—was as small as the District of Columbia.

With the exception of Prussia, which lacked 12,000 square miles of being as large as Montana, and of Bavaria, which is about the size of South Carolina, none of the other German States was as large as Massachusetts.

With the exception of the three free cities, the State having the densest population was the Kingdom of Saxony, with more than 829 persons to the square mile. For the entire Empire the density of population was nearly ten times as great as that of the United States.

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Jugo-Slavia Suggests One Period of American History

IN THE following bulletin, based on a communication to the National Geographic Society, the problem of organization facing the new kingdom of Serbs, Croats, and Slovenes (Jugo-Slavia) is compared to that confronting the thirteen American States after the Revolution and before the Constitution was adopted.

To unite all the Jugo-Slavs has long been the aspiration of leaders among the Croats and Slavonians as well as those in the Kingdom of Serbia. They wished to include the Bosnians, Helvats, Croats, Slavonians, Dalmatians, and Slovenes, former Austro-Hungarian, or still earlier Turkish, subjects, as well as the independent South Slavic State of Montenegro.

The World War has extended this desire, except that it no longer includes Bulgaria. One obstacle to federal union is difference of church communion. Most of the Jugo-Slavs are Eastern Orthodox; the remainder, except those who are Moslems, Roman Catholic. Obligations to Islam rest lightly on the peninsular Moslems and they will eventually join one or the other church.

Lack Experience in Self-government

A chief obstacle to federal union is inexperience in self-government on the part of the several groups. Except the Montenegrins and the Serbians in the larger part of royal Serbia, all the groups have been under the blighting domination of alternating foreign masters—mainly Turks, Austrians, and Magyars—since the Middle Ages. The federal system is of all systems the most difficult and complex, requiring the largest degree not only of skill, but of self-adjustment and self-control. Yet upon such a Ship of State these Slavic landsmen would embark as officers and crew in a stormy sea.

To the majority of these people the idea of union is novel, until recently entertained only by some score of dreamers, who, while Turkish or Austro-Hungarian subjects themselves, hardly believed in its possibility of realization. Nor do all the groups equally desire union, even now. The Slovenes, for example, are not overenthusiastic for it. In some respects the situation is analogous to that of the thirteen American States after the Revolution and before the adoption of the Constitution.

Strong Bonds of Race and Tongue

Powerful factors exist favorable to co-operation. The peoples are racially one, confronted everywhere by foreigners. Despite minor local differences, they possess in the Serbian a language intelligible to all, though in less degree to the Slovene, spoken by the great majority—the literary language of Croat, Bosnian, Helvat, Slavonian, Serbian, and in part of the Dalmatian. Bonds of race and language are strong.

There is practical absence of inherited animosities. The fact is recognized that whoever of them fought in the Austro-Hungarian ranks did so under military compulsion.

The one compelling factor is the consciousness that unless united the political existence of any of them is most insecure.

In the attempt of the Jugo-Slavs to rule themselves in the only possible way, they are entitled to the sympathy and patience of all who believe in self-government by the people.

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The Making of Steel

IN VIEW of the nation-wide attention directed toward the strike of steel workers, the National Geographic Society issued a bulletin, based on a communication concerning the making of steel, which follows:

The story of Bessemer steel is one of the fascinating chronicles of the industrial world. It seems to have been one of those cases where two men working in different countries, each without knowledge of what the other was doing, reached the same conclusion about the same time. Both were granted American patents; but, upon application for renewal, the Patent Office held Kelly to be the inventor. The world, however, gives the credit to Bessemer, and the process is known as the Bessemer process.

Kelly was a maker of old-fashioned cooking pots and kettles. It is related that one day he was sitting in front of his furnace and observed a point of incandescence where there was no charcoal—only the metal and the air. This led him to contend that air alone would burn out the impurities from molten iron. When he developed his tilting converter, his engineer blew such a tremendous blast through the first charge that iron and all went up as sparks, to his discomfiture and the crowd's amusement. He finally succeeded in getting the amount of air regulated and poured out of his converter the first Bessemer steel. People said Kelly would soon be burning ice. Since his old converter was first used, billions of dollars' worth of steel has flowed out of the world's converters.

Overcame Two Baffling Problems

Both Kelly and Bessemer were baffled by the problem of regulating the supply of air so that it would not burn out all the carbon, a little of which is essential to steel. Furthermore, their products frequently proved to be brittle, owing to the fact that the molten metal absorbed oxygen from the air blast. The first difficulty was solved eventually by the expedient of burning out practically all the carbon, then adding exactly the amount required for the specific quality of steel desired. The second difficulty was overcome through the addition of manganese to take care of the hurtful oxygen. The latter suggestion was the contribution of Robert F. Mushet, a Scotch steel-maker. Goransson, a Swedish ironmaster, had previously achieved the same results by using a pig-iron initially rich in manganese. Thereafter underdone and overdone steel disappeared.

To go into a great building where there is a battery of Bessemer converters is to see more heat than Dante ever pictured. A converter is a huge egg swung "amidships" on trunions. The great egg of steel lined with fire-brick has the top off. Some twenty tons of molten pig are poured into it, and then through some two hundred little holes in the bottom powerful engines pump in a stream of cold air. As the oxygen-laden air sweeps up through the molten iron, it touches the molten carbon and silicon, which constitute the impurities, and carries them away. Millions of red and white sparks fill the air, as if some demon within the fiery fluid were giving a pyrotechnic performance. A thousand engines, with safety-valves hissing under tremendous pressure, have the voice of a zephyr in comparison. First the flame that pours forth is violet, then shades into orange, becomes a dazzling white, burning finally to a faint blue, which is a sign that all the impurities are gone.

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2. Coblenz: On the "Seeing Germany" Route of the A. E. F.
3. Where Our Food Comes From.
4. Virgin Islands: Uncle Sam's Most Recent Purchase.
5. The Stars and Stripes, and Whence they Came.

N. Y. School Head Cites Studies Which Need Emphasis This Year

THE practicability of teaching history and geography from the present-day point of view was stressed by Superintendent of Schools William L. Ettinger in an address to the associate superintendents, district superintendents, examiners, directors, assistant directors and inspectors at a conference yesterday afternoon in the hall of the Board of Education.

As to methods of teaching, Dr. Ettinger said: "I think that geography should receive more attention than it has hitherto received, in order that all pupils may have a fairly wide basis for understanding the world relationship into which we have been thrust, and in order that they may have the broad sympathies for foreign folk that must be predicted as the basis of a league of nations or its equivalent.

"There must be changed emphasis so as to focalize the attention of the pupils at all times upon the geographical facts and relationships concerning the countries with which we have commercial and political connection. A pedantic knowledge of unrelated data covering the world as a whole is no substitute for knowledge that can be made to function daily in terms of current newspapers and magazines.

"Courses of study, while of great value in outlining and insuring a definite progression of work, can never be adequate substitutes for the wise discretion of the well-informed teacher who aims to nourish the wholesome interests of pupils, the vast majority of whom regard the daily press to be fully as interesting and as vital as the outgrown texts which we sometimes provide.

"The keynote of our historical study should be an intelligent interpretation of 'history in the making' that characterizes the world's happenings day by day. All history of the past, whether it be the wars in which this country has engaged, the adoption of the Constitution, and the various amendments, or the developments of transportation systems, should be interpreted with reference to present-day ideals and issues. So-called cultural knowledge of a remote past that has little or no significance with reference to an urgent present is of very little value indeed, and should be displaced by the discussion of topics that are fraught with meaning with regard to present-day problems."—*The Brooklyn Eagle, Sept. 27.*

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GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

Why Europe Is Important

"DID you ever ask yourself, 'Why is Europe Important?'" inquires a bulletin from the National Geographic Society.

"South America may have revolutions, nations elsewhere may topple, China with her four hundred millions may overturn a prehistoric monarchy, and the world goes about its business, undisturbed.

"Let a crack-brained nobody shoot at a European prince and every continent rocks with the Armageddon that ensues."

The bulletin quotes from a communication which tells why the smallest but one of the six continents produced "such practical monopoly of universal leadership."

"Of about the same size as Canada or Brazil, one might question, regarding merely territorial extent, whether Europe should be called a continent at all.

"Siberia exceeds it by more than a million square miles. On the map of the Eastern Hemisphere it appears insignificant. It is dwarfed on the south by the ponderous bulk of Africa, while Asia, to which it clings, thrusts it disdainfully away toward the northwest.

Only One-fiftieth of Globe's Surface

"Europe does not equal one-fourteenth of the land surface and is less than one-fiftieth of the entire surface of the globe; yet upon it dwell 450,000,000 human beings, more than a fourth of all mankind. Nor are all Europeans found in Europe. They and their children have occupied and populated the whole Western Hemisphere, of which they were the discoverers. They have partitioned and subdued to themselves nearly the whole of Africa. With the exception of China and Japan, they control all Asia and all the islands of all the seas. During the last twenty-five centuries from them as from a focus have radiated the art and science and thought of the world.

"In the physical advantages Europe possesses are revealed the causes which have given to Europeans and the descendants of Europeans their unquestioned superiority.

"Almost the whole of Europe is situated in the northern half of the North Temperate Zone. Its extreme northern point, the North Cape, is nineteen degrees from the Pole. Tarifa, its extreme southern point, is thirty-six degrees from the Equator.

"Nowhere, except in the farthest boreal limits, does excessive cold stunt body and mind. Nowhere does excessive and continued heat sap energy and enervate the will. No spontaneous prodigality of Nature removes the necessity of exertion and induces sloth.

Man Must Work to Live

"Here, where the air invigorates, man must labor if he would survive. The rewards of labor are reasonably sure, but something more is necessary than to satisfy one day's needs. The periodic succession, 'the rhythmic swing,' of the seasons, where winter invariably follows summer, compels him to take thought and make some provision of food, shelter, and clothing for the days to come.

"The climate of western Europe is determined by the Gulf Stream, the mightiest, most rapid, and most beneficent of ocean currents. Its heated mass, deflected eastward by the Banks of Newfoundland, reaches the shores of Europe, creating on its way the exhaustless fisheries of the North Sea.

"As no formidable barrier to breezes from the sea is interposed, the prevailing winds of Europe, loaded with ocean moisture, spread hundreds of miles inland, relieving the excesses of the seasons and fertilizing the soil.

"The coast-line of Europe is remarkable for its length and its availability. South America is twice and Africa three times as large, and yet, although Europe is landlocked on its eastern or Asiatic side, it has a longer coast-line than that of those two continents combined. North America has double the area of Europe. But, except for what stretches along the inhospitable Arctic, the sea front of the two is nearly the same.

Many Gulfs and Seas Lengthen its Coast-line

"Europe is intersected by numerous vast, narrow, half-inland gulfs and seas which endlessly break its contour and multiply its length.

"No other body of water rivals the incomparable sea which forms the southern boundary of Europe, the Mediterranean.

"The dwellers on the peninsular shores of Greece and Asia Minor were impelled by the circumstances of their lot to venture upon, gradually to understand, and finally to master the sea. And the sea gave back something greater than mere material returns.

"Inevitably the old land kingdoms, Egypt, Assyria, Persia, India, submerged the individual in the mass. As inevitably, in the men who singly or in groups of twos or threes wrestled with and overcame the sea, the sense of personal independence was roused. This was both achievement and revelation. It was the impelling motive at Marathon and in all the struggles for freedom since, down to the present day."

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Coblenz: On the "Seeing Germany" Route of A. E. F.

"BORN of a fort, half surrounded by forts, and under the shadow of a former Hun super-fort, Coblenz, Rhine headquarters of the Army of Occupation, has given many American soldiers a mental snapshot of a typical German military city," says a bulletin just issued by the National Geographic Society.

"When Augustus Cæsar sent Drusus to conquer the people of the Rhine region, that brilliant general built half a hundred forts along the river, and around some of these sprang up cities. Thus Coblenz originated. Drusus later set out to conquer the Elbe district, but is said to have desisted when he saw a womanly figure of monstrous size who told him he was about to die. On his way back his horse threw him. The injury was fatal.

"Frankish kings lived at Coblenz. In the eleventh century the city obtained a charter and for 800 years it was ruled by archbishop electors. It flourished as one of the Rhenish league of cities, but after the Thirty Years' War it became less prosperous. French, Swedes, Russians, and Germans occupied the town at various times until the Congress of Vienna awarded it to Prussia. In 1822 it became the seat of government of the Prussian Rhine province.

Birthplace of an Earlier Bernstorff

"A historic old house in Coblenz is the birthplace of Metternich, that Austrian Machiavelli who helped organize and presided over the Congress of Vienna. More than a century ago that conference failed to assure the peace for Europe which Paris conferees today are seeking to establish for the world. Metternich made a fine art of the secret diplomacy which has embroiled European nations ever since. He was the Count von Bernstorff of Austria during his ministry at the court of Paris, a sort of diplomatic spy both there and at St. Petersburg (now Petrograd), and an international matchmaker as well, for he planned the marriage of Napoleon and Marie Louise, archduchess of Austria.

"Coblenz derived its name from its location, on the triangle formed by the confluence of the Rhine and the Moselle, a location similar to that of Pittsburgh, Pa., on the Ohio and the Allegheny. The Romans called it 'Confluentes.'

"Frowning from a steep precipice of rock, nearly 400 feet above the Rhine, across the Moselle from Coblenz, is one of the most famous of German forts, the Ehrenbreitstein. No doubt American men in uniform inspected it at will, though before the war only a civilian, armed with a pass, might visit it. It forms the principal feature of the extensive defenses about Coblenz. That city is considered of prime military importance because of its navigation outlets on both rivers and its numerous railway lines.

Louis the Pious—but not Too Pious

"Louis the Pious—not so pious, though, that he remained a monk when his sons coaxed him to a monastery in the hope of getting his kingdom—founded the Church of St. Castor here in 836. But the present building, with its four towers, dates back only to the thirteenth century.

"In front of the church is a monument which attests the easy-going Russian sense of humor. The monument, erected by the French, bears a glowing tribute to Napoleon's successes in Russia. When the Russians occupied Coblenz their commander inscribed a few lines which, translated, mean, 'Seen and approved by me, commandant of the city of Coblenz, January 1, 1814.'

"Coblenz is 57 miles southeast of Cologne. Its population, before the war, was little more than 50,000."

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Where Our Food Comes From

WHY is the cost of food so high?

Most answers to that question, according to a bulletin from the National Geographic Society, go no farther than the grocer, the wholesaler, or perhaps the cost of farm labor.

But to trace to their sources many staple edibles found on the American dinner table one must go beyond State, national lines and frequently across the ocean, it is pointed out. The bulletin quotes from a communication to the Society from William Joseph Showalter as follows:

"Could we turn loose our fancy as we dine, we could see a great army of men and women working that we might eat. The appetites of men now levy tribute upon all the continents and all the seas, and where once all roads led to Rome, now they come directly to our dinner tables.

"Let us sit down to dinner and go over the menu and try to list those who have assisted in the preparation of our meal.

Here's a Spain-California-Texas Course

"At the top of the list come olives and salted nuts. The olives mayhap are from Spain, the almonds from California, and the pecans from Texas. The salt on the nuts was prepared in New York State. Also we have celery that came from Michigan.

"Then comes the soup. Without a cook-book at hand, this writer will not pose as an authority on the ingredients of soup, but it may be Chesapeake Bay clam chowder, which certainly has some pepper from Africa in it and other ingredients from far and wide.

"Our fish is salmon from Alaska, and our prime ribs of beef came to our table through the Kansas City 'packing-town.' Our potatoes came from Maine, our boiled rice from China, our string beans from Florida, and our tomatoes from Maryland.

"Next comes our salad, and it contains—if a man may guess at the contents of salads and dressings—Mexican peppers, Hawaiian pineapple, Sicilian cherries, Pennsylvania lettuce, Iowa eggs, Spanish olive oil, Ohio vinegar, California mustard, and Guiana red pepper.

"When we get down to the ice-cream, we eat Virginia cream, Cuba sugar, Ecuadorean vanilla, and Mexican chocolate. The cake that goes with it is made of butter from Illinois, flour from Minneapolis, made from wheat grown in North Dakota; baking powder from Pennsylvania, and other ingredients.

You May Have Three Guesses on Coffee

"When it comes to coffee, if we are fastidious we will have issued a draft on both Turkish Arabia and Dutch Java, or if we are only folk of every-day taste we will content ourselves with the Brazilian product.

"And so, when we come to reckon up those who have helped produce the raw materials of which our foods are made, we find the clouted African savage and the American stock grower; the South American Indian and the California truck farmer; the Javanese coffee picker and the Virginia dairyman; the turbaned Arabian and the New York orchardist; the Chinese coolie and the Dakota wheat farmer; the Mexican peon and the Chesapeake Bay fisherman; the Porto Rican planter and the Hawaiian sugar grower; the Spanish olive packer and the Alaskan Eskimo fisherman.

"Yet all these neglect the matter of transportation. Our food comes to us on the heads of Indians, on the backs of donkeys, drawn in carts by huge water buffaloes, aboard the 'ship of the desert,' on wheelbarrows propelled by Chinese coolies. Steamships, railroad trains, auto trucks, and delivery cars have all played their part in the great work of catering to discriminating appetites.

"Truly the man who dines well ought to be a deep student of geography, for all races, all nationalities, all types of peoples, all points of the compass, all latitudes—continent, island, river, and sea—all must come to him as he looks over the bill of fare and tries to find those things that delight his palate."

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Virgin Islands: Uncle Sam's Most Recent Purchase

ANNOUNCEMENT that the Virgin Islands, formerly the Danish West Indies, are to be the beneficiaries of an annual appropriation from the Navy Department, and are to be the objects of a general Americanization program, is the occasion for issuance of a bulletin concerning our newest possessions by the National Geographic Society.

"Though the Virgin Islands group comprises fifty islands, on the northeastern rim of the Caribbean Sea, only three are big enough to have a name on any but hydrographic charts and local maps," says the bulletin. "These are St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix.

"While St. Croix has an area of about 84 square miles and St. Thomas but 28 square miles, St. Thomas is the most important of the group. This importance arises from the fact that the harbor on the south side of the island is one of the finest in all tropical America."

The story of how the war robbed St. Thomas of her one lone industry, and the possibilities the islands hold for rehabilitation, is told in the following communication to the Society:

Was Rendezvous for Pirate Craft

"From the days of the buccaneers St. Thomas' strategic advantage has been realized, for when the Spanish Main was the happy hunting ground of the gentlemen of the Black Flag this harbor was their headquarters. Behind its outer hills the pirate craft found shelter from the open sea, and were well screened from the sight of passing ships until the moment came to pounce down upon them. In more recent times it has played the rôle of safe harbor for the thousands of vessels bound from Europe to Panama and surrounding territory, or vice versa. With a free port, where repairs, ships' stores, and coal might be had, upon which there had been no levy of tariff duties, the shipping world found the harbor of Charlotte Amalie an attractive way-station on most of its Caribbean routes.

"The result was that agriculture in St. Thomas fell into decay, and nearly all of the activities of the island's population were devoted to the interests of its harbor, and one of the finest coaling stations in the tropical world was established there.

"In addition to the coaling station there is a floating dry-dock and a marine slip, where splendid repair facilities are provided.

"As long as these facilities were in demand St. Thomas was a fairly prosperous island. Men and women alike found it easy to get employment, at least for a part of the time, at what was to them a living wage, which was one cent per basket of coal, weighing from 85 to 100 pounds. Some carried as many as two or three hundred baskets during the four or five hours required to coal a ship. When not doing this work, they found considerable employment discharging coal from freighters which brought it to St. Thomas.

War Robbed Islands of Their Trade

"But then came the war in Europe and all was changed. The steamships of Germany, which made continual use of the harbor of St. Thomas, were driven from the seas, and where formerly all was business and enterprise, only now and then a ship found its way into port, and the people of St. Thomas, their agriculture neglected for years, found themselves unable to gain a living, either from the land or from the sea.

"The history of the Danish West Indies is full of interest. Columbus found St. Thomas inhabited by Caribs and Arawaks in 1493. In 1657 a colony of Dutch settlers occupied the island; but when they heard of New Amsterdam, now New York, they left it to become a part of the new colony with such a remarkable future ahead of it. The English came to St. Thomas next, but in 1666 it was formally taken over by the Danish crown. In 1764 the King of Denmark took the government into his own hands and threw the port of Charlotte Amalie open, duty free, to all nations. In 1801 the British took the island from the Danes, but restored it after ten months. Again, in 1807, Britain took possession of St. Thomas, but returned it in the readjustments growing out of the Napoleonic wars in 1815.

"St. Croix was settled by Dutch and English, but they quarreled and the Dutch had to get out in 1650. The English in their turn were driven out by the Spaniards. Then the French from St. Kitts took a hand and expelled the Spaniards. France gave the island to the Knights of Malta; but after a prolonged, but losing effort to put it on a profitable basis, the Knights, in 1720, demolished their forts, abandoned the island, and removed to Santo Domingo. In 1727 the French captured eight British vessels lying there and took possession of the island again, finally selling it to King Christian of Denmark."

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The Stars and Stripes, and Whence They Came

IN THE course of a plea for a new flag for the British Empire—the Union Jack is but a combination of the flags of England, Ireland, and Scotland—Admiral Sir Charles Dundas, according to London dispatches, said "the ideal national flags are the French Tricolor and the American Stars and Stripes."

This tribute by an Englishman to the American flag was the occasion for issuance of the following bulletin, based on a communication to the National Geographic Society from Commander Byron McCandless, U. S. N., concerning the origin of the Stars and Stripes:

"In the embryonic days of the republic, when the Thirteen Original States were still feeble British colonies bordering the western shores of the Atlantic, there were almost as many varieties of banners borne by the Revolutionary forces as there are today races fused into one liberty-loving American people.

"When it became necessary to adopt an ensign for their newly created navy, in the autumn of 1775, the revolting colonies chose a flag that reflected their feeling of unity with the Mother Country, but at the same time expressed their firm joint purpose to demand and obtain justice and liberty.

The "Appeal to Heaven" Flag

"One of the colonial ships, the *Lady Washington*, was captured December 7 by H. M. S. *Fowey*, and her colors, still in the Admiralty Office in London, are described as bearing a pale-green pine tree on a field of white bunting, with the motto, 'An Appeal to Heaven.' This flag was flown by all the ships under Washington's command at this time, the design having been suggested by the commander-in-chief's military secretary, Colonel Joseph Reed.

"Prior to the receipt of the news of the capture of the British brig, *Nancy* (November 29), by one of General Washington's ships under command of John Manley, the Continental Congress had appointed Esek Hopkins commander-in-chief of the navy built by Congress as distinguished from the soldier-manned fleet under General Washington. Immediately following his appointment Commodore Hopkins (the first and only commander-in-chief the navy ever had) set sail from Rhode Island in that colony's armed vessel *Katy* and arrived in the Delaware River on December 3, 1775. The same day the commodore assumed the formal command of the little squadron which the Congress had placed under him.

The First History of an American Flag

"The manner in which that command was assumed is of signal importance, in that the ceremony marked the hoisting of the first truly American flag. And the distinction of having released the banner to the breeze belongs to that daring spirit, John Paul Jones.

"This was the flag which afterward figured so extensively in the literature of the day as the Congress Colors, from the fact that it first floated over the navy controlled by Congress. Also known as the Grand Union Flag and the First Navy Ensign, it was the Colonial standard from that day until it was superseded by the Stars and Stripes, in 1777. It consisted of thirteen stripes, alternately red and white, typifying the thirteen colonies, with a union bearing the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew combined (the national flag of Great Britain) and signifying the Mother Country.

"The Gadsden flag (of yellow silk and bearing a coiled rattlesnake with the motto 'Don't Tread on Me'), used on the *Alfred* as the flag of the commodore commanding the fleet, was presented February 8, 1776, to the South Carolina Provincial Congress by Colonel Christopher Gadsden, a delegate from South Carolina to the Continental body and one of the committee of three appointed on October 15, 1775, to report on the fitting out of two armed vessels. When that report was made, two weeks later, Colonel Gadsden was one of a committee of seven appointed to fit out four armed vessels.

"The jack displayed on the *Alfred* on this occasion was a small, nearly square flag of thirteen alternate red and white stripes, bearing a crawling rattlesnake with the legend 'Don't Tread on Me' beneath it.

June 14 the Birthday of the Stars and Stripes

"Although displayed on the Continental Army's first birthday, neither the Grand Union Flag nor the Stars and Stripes, adopted by Congress a year and a half later, was carried in the field by the land forces during the Revolutionary War. The army carried only the colors of the States to which the troops belonged and not the national flag.

"It was nearly one year after the representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, had pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor for the support of the Declaration of Independence that the crosses of St. George and St. Andrew, emblematic of the Mother Country, which had formed the union of the Continental Union flag, were discarded and replaced by a union composed of white stars in a blue field, 'representing a new constellation.'

"The date of the birth of the Stars and Stripes was June 14, 1777, and its creation was proclaimed in a resolution of the Continental Congress."

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(Founded in 1888 for the Increase and Diffusion of Geographic Knowledge)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

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CONTENTS FOR WEEK BEGINNING OCTOBER 6, 1919

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THE ROAD TO JERICHO

(Illustrating Bulletin No. 1, on "Palestine")

This picture shows a typical Palestine landscape, method of transportation, and manner of dress. The donkey still is as widely used as when Christ on the first Palm Sunday rode into Jerusalem upon the back of an ass. The two Bedouins in the foreground are wearing their characteristic head-dress, the white cloth and double-coil of goats' hair, reputed to be one of the oldest known forms of headgear.

AN EXPLANATION

The Geographic News Bulletins may be used as collateral reading in History, Geography, and Current Events classes. Some of them will be of use in Literature and Science courses.

They are intended to aid the teacher in introducing the pupil to the Geography and History of places at that crucial moment when the pupil's interest in those places has been aroused.

They are designed to meet the urgent demand for complete accounts of peoples and places which no text-book possibly can give.

They seek to be, first of all, accurate, and, after that, readable, that they may stimulate interest in the subjects treated.

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Austria-Hungary: Where Many Races Were Mixed But Never Welded.

TWO new nations, Czecho-Slovakia and the Kingdom of the Croats, Serbs, and Slovenes (Jugo-Slavia), have emerged largely from races and territory of Austria-Hungary.

To understand the causes of these realignments of peoples, it is necessary to know the hodge-podge racial content of this polyglot State—always more of a racial reagent than a melting-pot.

The following bulletin is based on a communication to the National Geographic Society from Dr. Edwin A. Grosvenor:

"The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy was an anomaly, both as to its system and as to the ethnical composition of its inhabitants. A reference to its method will throw some light upon present and future conditions.

"Austria-Hungary consisted of two equal and independent parts, Austria and Hungary. In Austria in 1910 there were 9,950,000 Austrian Germans as against 18,243,000 non-Germans of various races, mainly Slav. In Hungary in 1910 there were 10,051,000 Magyars as against 10,836,000 non-Magyars of various races.

"The Germans, though but one-third the population in the one, were dominant there, and the Magyars, though less than half the population in the other, were dominant there. To maintain this ascendancy of these two minorities summed up all the internal policy and determined most of the foreign policy of Austria-Hungary.

Antagonism Between Budapest and Vienna

"The Austrian Germans and the Magyars always disliked each other. The Austrian was a foreigner at Budapest and the Magyar at Vienna. But each recognized that his own political salvation depended largely on alliance with the other. To the Austrian especially it was an absolute necessity. The ascendancy of each was to be ascribed in part to long monopoly of power and to superior cleverness in manipulation.

"But always it could count on jealousies and divisions among the Slavic subjects—a condition always encouraged. More than once the hopes of some one of its subject Slavic peoples have approached realization, only to be thwarted by opposition of other Slavs or by its own dissensions.

"The disruption of the Austro-Hungarian Empire left the Magyars in much the same position as before, but broke Austria into fragments. The Austrian Germans still formed a compact body, but each of the subject Slavic peoples sprang to a realization of the national idea.

"The Germans inhabit a large territory, extending from Switzerland south of Bavaria to a little east of Vienna; also a belt of German population almost surrounds the Czechs, and German enclaves are dotted like islands in the midst of neighboring Magyars and Slavs.

Austrian Not a Race Name

"Despite frequent usage, it must not be forgotten that the word Austrian never was identified with or represented a race. It is a convenient distinguishing term, as in saying that the Austrian Germans have strong sympathies with the Germans in the former German Empire and will ultimately unite with them.

"The former South Slav, or Jugo-Slav, subjects of Austria-Hungary, included the Bosnians, Helvats, Croats, Slavonians, Dalmatians, and Slovenes. The other Slavic peoples, former subjects of Austria, are the Czechs, Moravians, Slovaks, and Ruthenians.

"The Czechs, together with the Slovaks and Moravians, are now recognized by the United States and the Entente Allies as forming the independent Czecho-Slovak nation. A broad area, inhabited by Germans and Magyars, separates the Czecho-Slovaks from the Jugo-Slavs."

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St. Helena: The Island That Wants The Ex-Kaiser As Its Prisoner Guest.

ST. HELENA, the island whose specialty is the entertainment of deposed monarchs, has good economic reasons for its reported desire to have the Kaiser for a prisoner.

Napoleon was its most famous and best paying "guest," though not the only one. Dinizulu, a Zulu king, was a more recent exile, sent there after he led a rebellion against the British during the Transvaal, in 1889. While Napoleon was at St. Helena, "profiteering" at the expense of the Bonaparte household and the numerous members of the garrison sent to guard him was reduced to a fine art by the island citizens.

In fact, it was the high cost of St. Helena living which created part of the friction between Napoleon and the British governor of the island, Sir Hudson Lowe. Instead of living within the 8,000 pounds sterling allowed for maintenance of Bonaparte and the half hundred members of his entourage, the bills for a year mounted to three times that sum. Upon complaint of the governor, which Napoleon resented, the ex-monarch executed a bit of "play to the galleries" by ordering his silver sold and his bed broken up for wood, which, when reported in England, created so much criticism of the governor, already none too popular, that further remonstrances were not made.

Napoleon's Principal Luxury Was Books

Napoleon's wants were few. His principal luxury was books; his diversions chess-playing and digging in his garden. Like the former Kaiser, he spent many hours with the Bible. He professed no piety, however, frankly admitting that he was making a study of certain Old Testament books to show that monarchies had divine sanction, and he also spoke of wanting to write a monograph on "The Campaign of Moses."

Since St. Helena is some 700 miles from the nearest land, Ascension Island, and 1,200 miles from the nearest African port, the extreme precautions taken by Lowe to prevent the escape of the man who once had ruled half of Europe created considerable amusement. Sir Hudson was greatly disturbed one day to find a newly arrived Corsican priest riding horseback in a coat similar to Napoleon's, believing the compatriot involved in a plot to deceive the guards. The French commissioners complained that the sight of a passing dog was enough to induce the governor to plant a new sentinel on the spot; but perhaps the most extreme of the many amusing stories of Lowe's solicitude was the occasion of his protest against Nepoleon's planting some white and green beans, sensing in this combination of colors a subtle allusion to the white flag of the Bourbons and the distinctive green uniform of the general.

Living almost wholly within two rooms and his garden, Napoleon insisted on all the pomp and ceremony possible in such cramped quarters. Since his companions necessarily were much in his presence, his insistence upon their standing sometimes brought them to the point of fainting. None might speak unless spoken to and all became extremely bored "with court life in a shanty involving all the burdens, without any of the splendors, of a palace."

At first the exile rode horseback, but soon abandoned that rather than have an English guard along. His seclusion is best attested by the fact that for five of his six years' stay he did not exchange a word with the governor; and of the three commissioners—Russian, Austrian, and French—sojourning there by the provisions of a treaty "to assure themselves of his presence," one saw him through a telescope once, a second looked into his face for the first time when he was to be buried, and the third saw him not at all.

Napoleon's days at St. Helena were not wholly devoted to killing time. He dictated his voluminous memoirs and military commentaries, while a number of his associates later added to these diaries, conversations, and memoirs of their own, inaccurate or deliberately misleading in large part. Now this activity would be called propaganda. It was highly effective propaganda, too. Though Napoleon's escape was prevented by vigilance to an absurd degree and though the effect of his winning personality was guarded against by forbidding visitors to see him, his writings and those of Montholon and Las Casas resulted in the royalistic "flareback" that put his nephew on the throne of France. It was to Napoleon III that Queen Victoria presented "Longwood," where Napoleon lived and died while at St. Helena.

Geographically an Ideal Prison Island

Geographically St. Helena is peculiarly fitted for an island prison. Its volcanic formation accounts for a half circle of mountains which permit only one landing place, that at the island's single port and city, Jamestown. Uninhabited when discovered, ten years after Columbus sailed for America, the island was settled by British, Dutch, and Portuguese.

In the days of sailing vessels and before the Suez Canal was opened, the islanders thrived by providing supplies for passing vessels. With the passing of this market for their meats and vegetables, the island's principal industries waned and the inhabitants dwindled until there are now only about 3,500 persons, as compared with twice that many residents thirty years ago. The island belongs to Great Britain and is administered directly by the Crown.

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Brest: On the Route by Which the Boys are Coming Home.

BREST, debarkation port in France for American troops and supplies, where President Wilson first set foot on French soil, is the subject of the following bulletin:

Thousands of American boys have said goodbye to France at the historic port of Brest, which now contains few reminders of its eventful annals.

Men who fought in Flanders will have heard the name of Sebastien Vauban, famous soldier-engineer, who, when governor of Lille a century and a half ago, had charge of all military work in Flanders. As the Americans sailed away from Brest the sky-line showed the donjon and towers of the old castle thirteenth century defenses reinforced by Vauban.

Left an orphan at ten, so poor at seventeen that when he was offered a commission he had to refuse it, Vauban won lasting prestige in military engineering. He strengthened more than 300 old fortresses, built numerous new ones, including the Dunkirk and Namur fortifications, had a part in half a hundred sieges and many other battles, and developed the siege method of parallel column approach, ricochet firing, and vertical fire attack.

Should an American soldier have missed Paris but seen Brittany—Brest is at the extreme west end of the land of the picturesque Bretons—he may not regret that fate in after life, for Paris always will be there; but the unique Breton folk, with their Celtic speech, legends, lore, folk-songs, and medieval customs, in some respects suggesting a little patch of Ireland transplanted to France, are disappearing. Even now the war has caused the abandonment, in large measure, of the varicolored costumes—red, violet, and blue—worn alike by men and women.

Brittany's Duchess Who Married by Proxy

The Bretons always have been independent and liberty-loving. In the middle ages it was often said, "He is not Duke of Brittany who is not Lord of Brest." The Bretons had conferred upon them by Charles VIII of France the right to pay only such taxes as their assembly of estates approved in the very year that Columbus set out to discover a land which was to raise that point some 300 years later.

When returning soldiers thought they had evolved an original idea in marrying by proxy, a procedure solemnly approved by the judge advocate general of the United States Army, they failed to recall the famous Anne of Brittany.

Becoming duchess of Brittany when she was but twelve years old, Anne faced troubles enough to make an older male monarch want to flee to Holland. When her duchy was invaded by a French army Anne married Maximilian of Austria, by proxy, to protect her lands. Having resorted, paradoxically, to marriage as a means of independence, she later married two kings of France and arranged to marry her daughter to a third monarch.

Flights of Stairs Instead of Sidewalks at Brest

Brest overlooks a large land-locked harbor, fourteen miles long and half as wide, which accommodates hundreds of vessels. The city is hilly. Flights of stairs often take the place of sidewalks. In many houses one may gaze from a first-story window into a second or third story of a neighboring residence.

The Penfeld River, emptying into Brest Roads, divides the major portion of the city from the section known as Recouvrance. In this river was France's naval port excavated from rock. Along both sides, before the war, extended foundries, magazines, repair docks, and workshops employing 7,000 men. Across the river was built one of the largest swinging bridges in the world.

In peace times Brest was a commercial port of importance. It received timber, coal, fertilizers, and sea food, and exported wheat flour, fruit, and chemicals made in Brest from seaweed. Other Brest industries were fishing, milling, the manufacture of shoes, linen and candles, and metal-work.

Along a boulevard, the Cours Dajot, are statues of Neptune and Abundance, by Antoine Coysevax, who was engaged by Louis XIV to decorate and provide a number of statues for Versailles. To him France owes chiseled likenesses of many historic men, including Louis XIV, Louis XV, Colbert, Mazarin, Racine, and a statue of Vauban, given a place in the Louvre.

Before the war Brest had a population of less than 100,000.

Tear off along this line if desired

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

Prepared Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

for

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Bureau of Education

Brest: On the Route by Which the Boys are Coming Home.

BREST, debarkation port in France for American troops and supplies, where President Wilson first set foot on French soil, is the subject of the following bulletin:

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Flanders Fields and the Poppies that Blow There.

"In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place;—"

IMMORTALIZED by a soldier-poet, himself buried in France, Flanders poppies already are symbols of the nation's hero-dead of the World War.

Now the poppy is to receive a semi-official recognition by being planted in government parks of the nation's capital as perennial memorials to the men who sleep under the crosses and poppies of Flanders.

To examine the poppy is not to violate its new-found sentiment, for it unfolds its glories upon closer study. Moreover, it has a symbolism unexpected, because of the pure accident of its association with America's sacrifices for freedom.

The poppy is a thoroughgoing Allied flower, found in profusion in France, but especially popular in England, because it is the only scarlet flower in the British flora except the scarlet pimpernel, and even that is more red than scarlet.

A Flower at Home in Many Lands

The poppy family (*genus papaver* in botanical terminology) has as many complexions and habitats as the skins and homes of the men whose graves it decorates. To the swarthy African, to the brave Australian, to the crusading Californian, and to the Asiatics employed behind the lines, the poppies of France must have nodded familiar heads in friendly welcome.

There are half a hundred or more branches (or species) of the poppy family. It is likely the soldier-poet quoted above had in mind the most prolific, one of the most common, and what many consider the most beautiful variety, the corn poppy (*Papaver Rhœas*). You will recall:

"'Neath the blue of the sky, in the green of the corn,
It is there that the regal red poppies are born."

A hint of the reason why the poppy survived the searing tramp of armed hosts and the churning of big-gun fire on the erstwhile grain fields of Flanders is given in a farmer's doggerel:

"When the poppy ripens, be sure the seeds
Will stock the garden as with weeds."

For the same reason the poppy's hardihood is attested in England by its bloom along railroad tracks, by the roadside, and in the niches of stone walls.

Nature provided the poppy with an intricate and ingenious device of a kind which makes the study of even the simplest plant life a constant marvel and delight. It is the village rheumatic of the flower community, equipped with a miniature hydroscope. Long capsules contain the seeds of the poppy. Atop each capsule are valves, sensitive to moisture of the air, which close when the atmosphere is humid. When the air is dry the pores open to eject the seed upon warm, sunny soil.

The Poppy is Thoroughly Democratic

Nor is that all. Jealous floral tribes might accuse this plant of "Pan-Poppy" ambitions for expanding its place under the sun; for it is no mere accident that the seeds are at the bottom and the pores at the top of the slender capsule. When the wind blows, the stems sway over a wide area and fling out the seeds for a far greater distance than if they fell around the root.

The poppy is thoroughly democratic in its hospitality to flies, bees, beetles, and all other insects. It invites them by its brilliant colors and offers no special charm for certain privileged insects, as do some more exclusive flowers. It has no honey, but provides pollen in plenty. In part, the poppy is self-fertilizing, but plants also are fertilized by the pollen "left-overs" of the insects' feast which they carry to other flowers.

A characteristic of the corn poppy, beside its brilliant scarlet coloring, is the large size of its two outer petals, which hide the lesser pair until the flower has opened. Poppies of Flanders, be they corn poppies or other varieties, are not of the Oriental species from which opium is derived. The corn poppy, when cultivated, is known as the Shirley poppy. The flower is perennial or annual, according to the variety.

"A Poppy by Any Name"

Travelers among country folk of England will encounter various names given to the poppy, such as "red cap," "red weed," and "fireflout." The more prosaic prefer "cheesebowl," on account of the shape, and even "headache," because of the odor of some varieties:

"Corn poppies that in crimson dwell,
Called headaches from their sickly smell."

And another poet is more guarded in his olfactory comment:

"No odors sweet proclaim the spot
Where its soft leaves unfold;—"

But of all the poetic mention of the poppy, from that of Burns and Keats down to Bridges and William Winter, perhaps the most glowing and descriptive is contained in the lines of Francis Thompson:

"Summer set lip to Earth's bosom bare,
And left the flushed print in a poppy there:
Like a yawn of fire from the grass it came,
And the fanning wind puffed it to flapping flame.
With burnt mouth red like a lion's, it drank
The blood of the sun as he slaughtered sank,
And dipped its cup in the purpurate shine
When the eastern conduits ran with wine."

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Palestine: A Pygmy Land with a Giant History

OF peculiar timeliness, because of widespread American interest in the future of Palestine, is a communication to the National Geographic Society from Viscount James Bryce, former British Ambassador to the United States.

The historic Holy Land, released from deadly Moslem domination, may take its place among the "prosperous and even populous" civilized States of today, he states, if administered by "a government which should give honest administration, repress brigandage, diffuse education, irrigate the now desolate, because sun-scorched, valley of the lower Jordan with water drawn from the upper course of the river."

A part of Viscount Bryce's communication follows:

"Palestine is a tiny little country. Though the traveler's hand-books prepare him to find it small, it surprises him by being smaller than he expected. Taking it as the region between the Mediterranean on the west and the Jordan and Dead Sea on the east, from the spurs of Lebanon and Hermon on the north to the desert at Beersheba on the south, it is only 110 miles long and from 50 to 60 broad—that is to say, it is smaller than New Jersey.

King David's Enemies Always Only 25 Miles Away

"Of this region large parts did not really belong to ancient Israel. Their hold on the southern and northern districts was but slight, while in the southwest a wide and rich plain along the Mediterranean was occupied by the warlike Philistines, who were sometimes more than a match for the Hebrew armies. Israel had, in fact, little more than the hill country, which lay between the Jordan on the east and the maritime plain on the west. King David, in the days of his power, looked down from the hill cities of Benjamin, just north of Jerusalem, upon Philistine enemies only 25 miles off, on the one side, and looked across the Jordan to Moabite enemies about as far off, on the other.

"Nearly all the events in the history of Israel that are recorded in the Old Testament happened within a territory no bigger than the State of Connecticut, whose area is 4,800 square miles; and into hardly any other country has there been crowded from the days of Abraham till our own so much history—that is to say, so many events that have been recorded and deserve to be recorded in the annals of mankind.

Hermon and Lebanon's Hills Lie Beyond the Kingdom of Israel

"Nor is it only that Palestine is really a small country. The traveler constantly feels as he moves about that it is a small country. From the heights a few miles north of Jerusalem he sees, looking northward, a far-off summit carrying snow for eight months in the year. It is Hermon, nearly 10,000 feet high—Hermon, whose fountains feed the rivers of Damascus.

"But Hermon is outside the territory of Israel altogether, standing in the land of the Syrians; so, too, it is of Lebanon. We are apt to think of that mountain mass as within the country, because it also is frequently mentioned in the Psalms and the Prophets; but the two ranges of Lebanon also rise beyond the frontiers of Israel, lying between the Syrians of Damascus and the Phoenicians of the west.

"Perhaps it is because the maps from which children used to learn Bible geography were on a large scale that most of us have failed to realize how narrow were the limits within which took place all those great doings that fill the books of Samuel and Kings. Just in the same way the classical scholar who visits Greece is surprised to find that so small a territory sufficed for so many striking incidents and for the careers of so many famous men."

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